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Section: Parasitology Manual	Subject Title: Performance Standards	
Issued by: LABORATORY MANAGER	Original Date: March 13, 2000	
Approved by: Laboratory Director	Revision Date:	
	Review Date:	

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PARASITOLOGY LABORATORY

Based on current figures the following standards are expected of an MLT working in the Parasitology Laboratory at The Toronto Hospital per day:

- Inexperienced – 15-20 O&P stools (concentration and/or stain)
reading time ranges from 19-26 minutes/specimen
- Moderate experience – 25-30 O&P stools (concentration and/or stain)
reading time ranges from 13-16 minutes/specimen
- Experienced – 40 - 50 O&P stools (concentration and/or stain)
reading time ranges from 8 -10 minutes/specimen

These figures are calculated using a 6 ½ hour working day.

It should be noted that these figures are the accepted standard for laboratories only performing stools for Ova and Parasite examinations. Our laboratory performs many other tests requiring the technologist's time on any given working day. The most important are malaria bloods. Malaria bloods are almost always STAT and must be processed and reported within 45-60 minutes from receipt of specimen. Therefore the standards listed above the MLTs reading O&P stools must be reduced as follows if malaria bloods are received:

- Inexperienced – total read reduced by 2 - 3 O&P stools/malaria blood received
- Moderate experience – total read reduced by 4 - 5 O&P stools/malaria blood received
- Experienced – total read reduced by 6-8 O&P stools/malaria blood received