**INTRODUCTION**

The two most prevalent parasites, Cryptosporidium and Giardia duodenalis, are common causes of gastrointestinal disturbances. These parasites infect the intestine and cause symptoms such as diarrhea, abdominal pain, and dehydration. Cryptosporidium spp. is transmitted by contaminated water or food, and Giardia duodenalis is transmitted through contaminated water or food, or by person-to-person contact.

**METHODS**

This study consisted of 96 residual stool specimens that were obtained from patients seeking care for gastrointestinal illness and had been submitted to the Scottish Parasite Diagnostic and Reference Laboratory (Glasgow, Scotland) for parasite analysis based on clinician suspicion of gastrointestinal infection. The specimens were initially characterised by microscopic methods. To identify diarrheagenic E. coli (D & E), first-stage PCR primers were targeted to conserved regions of the genes encoding toxins A and/or B. All PCR reactions were performed in triplicate, and the results were interpreted as positive or negative.

**RESULTS: Gastrointestinal Pathogens**

The FilmArray GI Panel correctly identified 31 samples that were positive for Giardia duodenalis, and 26 out of 27 stool samples that were positive for Cryptosporidium e.g. Crypto.

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REFERENCES

- Scottish Parasite Diagnostic and Reference Laboratory, Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow.
- BioFire Diagnostics, Inc., Salt Lake City, UT.