



FAECAL REDUCING SUBSTANCES

From **1st November 2012** this test will no longer be offered. This is due to a combination of ongoing supply problems and questionable clinical value.

Unfortunately the test suffers from significant sensitivity and specificity issues, resulting in more and more laboratories discontinuing the test. This decrease in demand is the likely reason that the manufacturers have stopped producing the reagents.

Faecal reducing substance is often requested in the context of suspected lactose intolerance. For best practice in the diagnosis of lactose intolerance, please refer to the relevant section in the BPAC website, referenced below:

http://www.bpac.org.nz/resources/bt/2010/03_lactose.asp

Please contact me if you have any queries with regards to this change.

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CLINICAL UPDATE