Fecal elastase refers to the testing of the concentration of the pancreatic elastase-1 enzyme found in fecal matter with an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). Results of this test can give a good indication of exocrine pancreatic status and is less invasive and expensive than the current “gold standard”, secretin-cholecystokinin test. Levels of fecal elastase lower than 200 µg / g of stool indicate an exocrine
Fecal elastase insufficiency. Correlations between low levels and chronic pancreatitis\(^2\) and cancer\(^3\) have been reported.

References:

2. Fecal Elastase 1 ELISA For Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency: Comparison With ERCP-Morphology And Fecal Fat Excretion
3. Role of Fecal Elastase 1 in Pancreatic Cancer: A Pilot Study

**Storage and Shipment:**

The specimen must be stored and shipped frozen.