

# INVESTIGATIONS IN CHILDREN WITH SUSPECTED IBS

Pathology tests including:

- Full blood count
- Liver function tests
- Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
- Plasma viscosity
- Iron studies
- C-reactive protein
- Serological screening for coeliac disease (if gluten intake is adequate)

Stool sample (particularly in children with diarrhoea and/or those who have recently travelled to a developing country). This would be used to look for ova, cysts and parasites, especially *Giardia* species.

Physical examination

Anthropometry (height, weight and growth history)

Stool sample (particularly in children with diarrhoea and/or those who have recently travelled to a developing country). This would be used to look for ova, cysts and parasites, especially *Giardia* species.

Specialist investigations (e.g. radiological imaging or gastrointestinal endoscopy) are usually only indicated if:

red flags are identified

there is a clear history of IBS, or

baseline investigations and/or the physical examination was abnormal[38].