BayCare Laboratories

# Physicians' Newsletter

**August 2, 2018**

## MYCOPLASMA TEST CHANGES

Effective **August 15, 2018** due to low specificity, the **Mycoplasma IgM Qualitative assay will no longer be available in-house.** The replacement test is **Mycoplasma IgM (SENDOUT)** performed at Quest on serum; Turnaround time for this test is 2-3 days.

**Reference Range(s)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Negative | <770 U/mL |
| Low Positive | 770-950 U/mL |
| Positive | >950 U/mL |

Other tests that can be ordered to detect an active Mycoplasma pneumonia infection are listed below. The preferred respiratory samples for the detection of Mycoplasma are: bronchial washing, bronchoalveolar lavage, tracheal secretions or Naso-pharyngeal swabs (NP swab).

- **Mycopl/Chlam pneum PCR (Atypical Pneumonia PCR)** performed in-house on **all respiratory specimen types**
- **Respiratory Panel PCR** (test includes Mycoplasma pneumonia) performed in-house **on NP swabs**

## AUSTRALIAN PINE ALLERGY TESTING REAGENT ON BACKORDER

The reagent for Australian Pine allergy testing, which is part of BayCare Florida Subtropical Allergy Panel, is on backorder from the manufacturer. We are unable to test for this allergen and the charge will be removed from the panel when performing testing for the panel. We are expecting reagent to be available in late September.

## Vitamin D 1,25 Level Test Change

The Vitamin D 1,25 Level test orderable which is a sendout changed to Calcitriol Level (1,25 Dihydroxyvitamin D) which is performed in-house. Specimen collection container is a Gold/SST tube (min. volume of 2mL).

## CHANGES TO HIV TESTING

Effective immediately, the following HIV test names have changed:

| NEW Test Name | Test Explanation (Old Name) | Preferred Tube Type | Performed at | Turnaround Time |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **HIV 1+2 Screen ALL (p24 Ag/Ab)** | General population screening (HIV p24 Ag/Ab) | Serum separator tube SST (Gold) | MPH | Within 24 hours |
| **HIV 1+2 Screen ED (p24 Ag/Ab)** | Screening in Emergency Dept. at SJH (HIV ED Screen) | Serum separator tube SST (Gold) | SJH | Within 2 hours |
| **HIV 1+2 Screen OB (p24 Ag/Ab)** | Screening of Obstetrics patients (HIV 1 HIV 2 Rapid Ab OB) | Serum separator tube SST (Gold) | All locations | Within 2 hours |

A new reflex rule is in place if results from the HIV 1 + 2 Confirm test is discrepant with initial screening. All screening tests are 4th Generation and include both p24 Ag and antibodies; all positive screening tests are confirmed with **HIV 1 + 2 Confirm** (this is a lab-order only, performed at St. Joseph's Hospital and Morton Plant Hospital).

If the confirmation test yields a positive result, HIV infection is confirmed. If the **HIV 1 + 2 Confirm** test is negative or indeterminate, further confirmation is needed. In those cases, **a Nucleic Acid Amplification Test is automatically ordered by a Cerner reflex rule: HIV 1 RNA Qualitative,** a test performed at Quest Diagnostics. This test is specifically FDA-approved as a diagnostic confirmatory test. If the HIV 1 RNA Qualitative result is positive, an HIV infection is confirmed. If the HIV 1 RNA Qualitative result is negative, the initial HIV result is considered a false positive and repeat testing is recommended at 2-4 weeks, if clinically warranted.