

**NEW TRICHOMONAS PCR TESTING OFFERED AT PLS
EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2013**

#1987 Trichomonas vaginalis – New Assay

Acceptable Specimen Types: Aptima Swabs, Urine, Liquid-Based Pap Vials (ThinPrep® & SurePath™)
Performed: Monday – Friday / PLS Molecular Department
CPT: 87798
Client Price: \$20.00

#2000 – Chlamydia, GC, Trichomonas vaginalis Panel – New Panel

~Previously offered as the Leukorrhea Panel~

Acceptable Specimen Types: Aptima Swabs, Urine, Liquid-Based Pap Vials (ThinPrep® & SurePath™)
Performed: Monday – Friday / PLS Molecular Department
CPT: 87491, 87591, 87798
Client Price: \$55.00

Trichomonas vaginalis (TV) is the most common curable sexually transmitted disease (STD) in the United States, with an estimated 7.4 million new cases occurring annually. Infections in women cause vaginitis, urethritis, and cervicitis and may be accompanied by discharge and small hemorrhagic lesions in the genitourinary tract. Complications can include premature labor, low-birth-weight offspring, premature rupture of membranes, and post-abortion or post-hysterectomy infection. An association with pelvic inflammatory disease, tubal infertility, and cervical cancer with previous episodes of trichomoniasis has been reported. Symptomatic women complain of vaginal discharge and vulvovaginal soreness; however, it has been estimated that approximately 50% of *T. vaginalis* infections in women are asymptomatic.

Effective August 1, 2013, Physicians Laboratory will begin performing *Trichomonas vaginalis*. The APTIMA *Trichomonas vaginalis* PCR Assay is an FDA approved nucleic acid test that utilizes Target Capture, Transcription-Mediated Amplification (TMA), and Hybridization Protection Assay (HPA) technologies. Studies currently show that the sensitivity for the Aptima PCR assay ranges from 96.6% - 98.4%, compared to the Wet Mount that has a sensitivity of 50.8% to 54.6%. (OBG Management, February 2013).

MediPass NPI Numbers

Iowa MediPass members are required to get a referral from their MediPass Provider in order to be treated by another physician. This referring physician's Name/NPI number is required on the claim forms in order to be reimbursed for services. If you as an ordering physician or facility are not the member's MediPass Provider, then please include the name and/or NPI number of the MediPass physician along with the laboratory orders.

Whole Blood Lead Requirements

Physicians Laboratory is changing whole blood lead methodology. The new method requires samples to remain at room temperature prior to testing. The samples must be received within 24 hours of the draw time. The volume of sample required is 100 μ L of whole blood. Place the specimen in a **Room Temperature** bag.

Collect the sample using one of the following:

- 1) EDTA Microtainer
- 2) Royal Blue EDTA tube
- 3) Lavender EDTA tube

This change will enable Physicians Laboratory to perform the test on a more routine basis and provide a better turnaround time. For any questions, please contact Jan Nelson or Cathy Maynard in the Special Chemistry department.

Test #1040 – Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Culture Typing 1 and 2 – Cost Increase

Significant manufacturer reagent and cell line cost changes have made it necessary to increase our pricing for Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Culture Typing test #1040. In addition to the standard culture charge, now a small additional fee will be added to cover the cost of typing any positives. Please note that the cost of the culture itself will not change. The additional charge will only occur when a positive sample is typed.

HSV Typing 1 and 2

Culture, Typing - CPT: 87140 per typing

Cost \$5.00 per typing

Test # 7525 Herpes Subtype (HSV-1 & HSV-2) by PCR

****Note: Test # 7692 HSV I & II Detection and Differentiation by RT-PCR has been discontinued****

Specimen Requirements:

Serum, CSF, Whole Blood ACD Solution A, OneSwab of Lesion, UTM, ThinPrep® or Biopsy.

Specimen Stability:

OneSwabs, ThinPreps®, and Tissue Blocks are stable at room temperature.

CSF, Whole Blood ACD Solution A, and UTM must be submitted refrigerated.

CPT: 87592 x 2