

IN-NETWORK STATUS WITH UHC & AETNA

Several of our clients have received notices stating LabCorp and Quest have exclusive contracts with UHC and Aetna. It is our understanding that these announcements were specifically directed towards other national laboratories and are not applicable to local facilities. Physicians Laboratory wants to assure our clients that we are still in-network with UHC and Aetna. You do not need to send these samples to LabCorp and Quest for testing. If you have any questions, please call Kacey Moreland at 402-731-4145.

RAPID MOLECULAR STOOL TESTING AT PHYSICIAN LABORATORY

Physicians Laboratory Microbiology Department is now offering the Verigene[®] Enteric Pathogens Test (EP), a rapid PCR test to replace traditional stool culture. Verigene EP confirms negative samples and identifies positives in only 2 hours, resulting in faster and more sensitive results for clinicians and their patients. Most importantly, Molecular PCR testing has been shown to be up to twice as sensitive as current stool culture methods.¹

After January 25th, PLS (in- house) stool culture testing will no longer be performed. All requests for stool culture after this date will be forwarded to an outside reference lab. Test turn-around time and pricing will be affected.

Bacteria

Campylobacter Group (*C. coli*, *C. jejuni* and *C. lari*)

Salmonella spp.

Shigella spp.

Vibrio Group (*V. cholerae* and *V. parahaemolyticus*)

Yersinia enterocolitica

Viruses

Norovirus (GI and GII)

Rotavirus A

Toxins

Shiga Toxin 1 (*stx1*)

Shiga Toxin 2 (*stx2*)

Note: When *Shigella* species is detected, an automatic reflex to culture isolation and susceptibility testing will occur.

Rotavirus #324, Shiga toxin 1&2 #675, and Norovirus by PCR # 9339, will also be available as stand-alone tests using this same test methodology. CPT code 87798 – Client price: \$100

Please contact Jean Fisher or Kayleigh Griffin in the Microbiology Department with any questions.

402-731-4145

Enteric Pathogens Panel by PCR #8446

CPT code: 87506

Client price: \$150

Required sample: Para-Pak C&S transport (orange vial) or Cary- Blair equivalent

Fill sample volume to red line only.

Overfilled samples will be rejected.

Stability: 48 hours refrigerated, preferred

Samples delayed >48 hours can be frozen.

1Novak and Marlowe, Clinical Virology Symposium 2014 Poster: *Evaluation of the Verigene EP IUO Test for the Rapid Detection of Bacterial and Viral Causes of Gastrointestinal Infection*, Tuesday, April 29, 2014.