

October 2020

Enteric Pathogens Panel Updates

Effective October 13, 2020, the reference lab where we send our Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel will be changing. The new panel performed on the Verigene platform (CPT code 87506) will be referred within the Methodist Health System. Previously, requests for Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panels were sent to Regional Pathology Services and performed on the Biofire platform (CPT 0097U).

Interpretive Data: Targets offered on the new panel are listed below:

Bacteria

- *Campylobacter* Group
- *Salmonella* species
- *Shigella* species
- *Vibrio* Group
- *Yersinia enterocolitica*

Toxins

- Shiga Toxin 1 (stx1)*
- Shiga Toxin 2 (stx2)*

Viruses

- Norovirus (GI/GII)
- Rotavirus (Group A)

* Present in shiga toxin producing strains of *E. coli* (STEC), such as O157.

Changes: The panel includes the most common treatable and epidemiologically significant pathogens in community-acquired diarrhea. Targets which were included on the previous panel but are no longer included are as follows:

- ***Plesiomonas shigelloides*** If there is clinical suspicion for this organism, order a routine Stool culture.
- ***E. coli* (EAEC)/(EPEC)/(ETEC)/(EIEC)** These targets are no longer offered.
- **Sapovirus, Astrovirus, and Adenovirus** These targets are no longer offered.
- **Ova and Parasites** If there is a suspicion of a parasitic infection, order the Ova and Parasite Screen and/or Ova and Parasite Complete.

Specimen Requirements: Stool in Cary-Blair or Enteric Plus transport media (unchanged).

Test Performed: 24 hours a day/7 days a week

Please direct any questions to Client Support Services at 402-354-4541 and/or Dr. Tess Karre at 402-354-7842