

A Publication of Geisinger Medical Laboratories Vol. (18):1-2, October 30, 2013

RESPView Pathogen Surveillance 2013-2014

- There are **NO** influenza isolates confirmed in Geisinger Region or in Pennsylvania. We plan to initiate Flu testing algorithms November 1, 2013. See below

10X Essentials

Respiratory Pathogens Detected by PCR

Effective Nov. 1, 2013, the GMC Microbiology laboratory will trigger the following testing scheme for respiratory pathogen detection with the following variations of Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR):



Test code PCRABR (FLU A/B and RSV PCR), recommended for outpatients

PCRABR is available Nov. 1 – April 30.

Includes rapid antigen testing for RSV on patients <6 yrs (November 1 – April 30).

If the rapid RSV results are positive, no further testing is routinely performed.

If the rapid RSV results are negative, PCR testing for influenza A, influenza B and RSV is performed.

Test code RVPCR (Respiratory PCR), for inpatients and the immunocompromised

RVPCR is available year round and includes rapid antigen testing for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) on patients <6 yrs during the time period between November 1 –April 30).

If the rapid RSV results are positive on an outpatient, no further testing is routinely performed.

If the rapid RSV results are negative or positive for any inpatient, then reflex to full PCR testing for the following respiratory pathogens is performed: adenovirus, coronaviruses: 229E, HKU1, NL63, and OC43, rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus, influenza A (subtypes H1, 2009 H1, and H3), influenza B, parainfluenza virus types 1-4, RSV, Bordetella pertussis, Chlamydomphila pneumoniae, and Mycoplasma pneumoniae.

NOTE: Do not order RVPCR and PCRABR on the same specimen.

For questions about respiratory pathogen testing, please contact Microbiology Technical Specialists, Lisa Scicchitano, B.S., MT(ASCP) at 570-214-4294, Francis Tomaszefski, B.S., MT(ASCP) at 570-271-6185, Dr. Donna Wolk, MHA, Ph.D, D(ABMM), System Director, Clinical Microbiology at 570-271-7467 or Dr. Raquel Martinez, Ph.D, Associate Director, Clinical Microbiology at 570-271-6338

Questions: For newsletter questions, contact Christy Attinger at (570) 271-6338.

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