

10X Essentials

Geisinger

Diagnostic Medicine Institute

Infectious Disease Diagnostics

A Publication of Geisinger Medical Laboratories
Microbiology. Vol. (4):6. December 11, 2018

New GI Pathogen Panel (GIPP) is Available

As of December 11, 2018, just in time for the holiday foodborne outbreaks, Geisinger Medical Laboratories will begin testing for gastrointestinal pathogens by PCR.

The GI Pathogen Panel replaces the former Stool Comprehensive Panel (STCOM) and rapidly detects ALL the former GI pathogens you find in culture....and more!

GI Pathogen Panel Targets: *Campylobacter* group (*C. coli*, *C. jejuni*, and *C. lari*), *Salmonella* species, *Shigella* species (*S. dysenteriae*, *S. boydii*, *S. sonnei* and *S. flexnerii*), *Vibrio* group (*V. cholera* and *V. parahaemolyticus*), *Yersinia enterocolitica*, *Norovirus GI/GII*, *Rotavirus A*, Shiga toxin 1 and 2 gene virulence markers. *Aeromonas* and *Plesiomonas* species, which are relatively rare, will continue to be detected by culture methods, until version 2 of the panel becomes available next year. Until then, we will identify the pathogens automatically, and the culture results for these 2 pathogens will typically be available after 48 hours of incubation.

CPT codes: 87506, 87046

The preferred specimen is 5 mL unformed stool in C&S transport media, pictured in the sidebar, and stable, if refrigerated, for up to 48 hours.

The benefits of GIPP testing are:

Therapeutic — Results can improve patient management decision making, minimizing use of inappropriate, often potentially harmful antibiotics and their costs

Analytic — Stool culture is less sensitive than molecular methods—molecular testing detects nearly three times as many infections, and can help prevent further unnecessary downstream testing

Psychologic — Results can lead to earlier peace of mind for the patient and physician once the causative pathogen is identified

Speed and Accuracy — Nearly 95% of all stool samples are negative, but testing is laborious and requires an incubation time of 3 to 8 days. Now results will usually be available in < 8 to 24 hours.

Operational — Potential reduction in length of stay and length of isolation for patients in the hospital

Of Public Health Benefit — Results can reduce time to outbreak detection



REMINDERS

Request GIPP,
GI Pathogen Panel

C&S transport medium (yellow cap)



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Respiratory View

In CDC Week 49, rhinovirus/enterovirus is the predominant virus group, followed by RSV, and influenza A virus.

