

# 10X Essentials

Geisinger

Diagnostic Medicine Institute

## Infectious Disease Diagnostics

A Publication of Geisinger Medical Laboratories  
Microbiology. Vol. (7):7. October 8, 2019

### Updates to Microbiology Respiratory Pathogen Testing:

Effective Tuesday October 8, 2019, Microbiology implemented a faster, more sensitive, and broader next-generation respiratory pathogen panel (RPPCR). The new panel includes *Bordetella parapertussis* in addition to *B. pertussis* and other viral and bacterial targets.

#### Whooping Cough, Case Definition (*Bordetella pertussis*)

In the absence of a more likely diagnosis, a cough illness lasting  $\geq 2$  weeks with at least 1 of the following signs or symptoms is the clinical case definitions:

- Paroxysms of coughing, OR
- Inspiratory "whoop," OR
- Vomiting from coughing hard, OR
- Apnea (with or without cyanosis) for infants < 1 year of age

Confirmation occurs by positive PCR assay.

#### *Bordetella* species

- *B. parapertussis* causes a pertussis-like illness that is generally milder than pertussis, likely because the bacteria do not produce pertussis toxin. In addition, *B. holmesii*, and *B. bronchiseptica* can cause significant coughing.
- *Bordetella parapertussis* will automatically be tested in the Respiratory Pathogen Panel (RPPCR). **Please discontinue placing separate orders for the detection of *Bordetella parapertussis* from respiratory specimens.**
- **The new test turn-around time is 15 minutes faster** than the previous version and has **improved sensitivity/specificity** for multiple targets (mainly influenza typing and adenovirus).
- The new assay should not affect operational workflows, such as test ordering and sample collecting. **Please continue to collect nasopharyngeal (preferred specimen type) specimens for respiratory pathogen testing in Universal Transport Medium (UTM) and transport to the laboratory on ice.**



#### NOTE:

*B. pertussis*, *B. parapertussis*, *B. holmesii*, and *B. bronchiseptica* can cause severe coughs. *B. pertussis* and *B. parapertussis* can be detected by PCR

Flu A, H3 strain, has been isolated 4 times over the last 2 months.

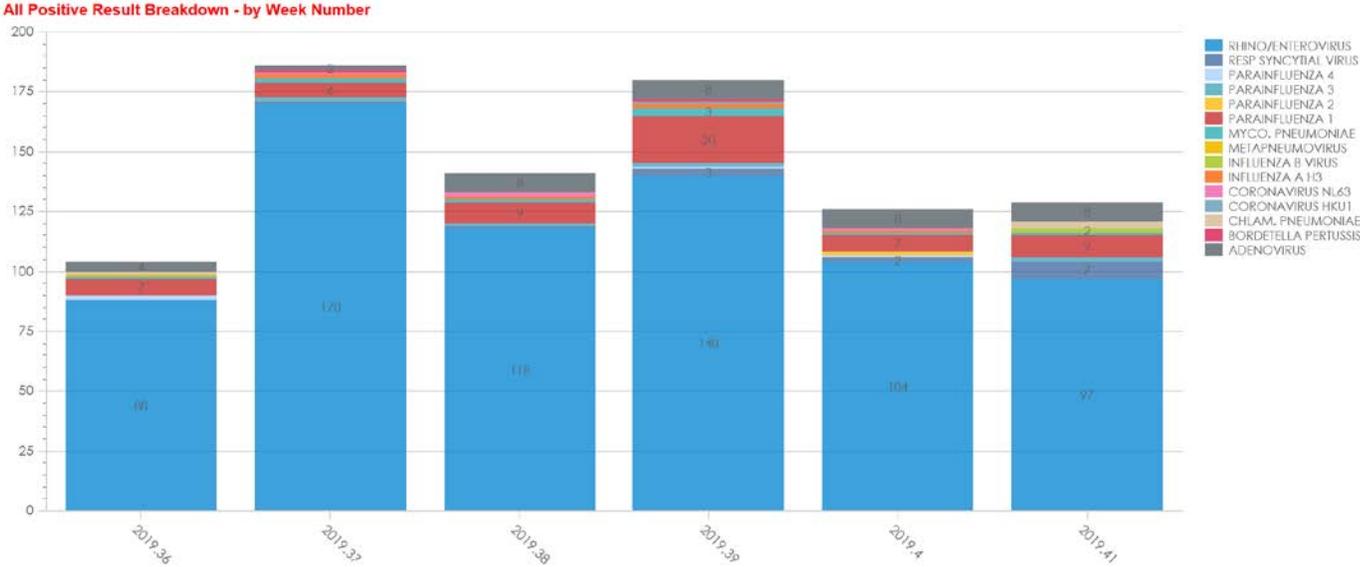
Out-patient

Check out 10X  
Essentials on  
YAMMER

<https://www.yammer.com/>



**CDC Week 36-41 Respiratory Epidemiology: Rhinovirus/enterovirus predominate.**



Influenza A cases are extremely rare; 4 cases in the last 2 months, all influenza A H3 strains.

GML Laboratory will launch the Out-patient Flu/RSV panel (ABRP) on Nov 1, 2019.