

10X Essentials

A Publication of Geisinger Medical Laboratories
Division of Molecular and Microbial Diagnostics
Vol. (8):3. January 27, 2020

Geisinger

Diagnostic Medicine Institute

New Vaginal Panel (VAGP); Available February 11, 2020

The old BVAGP test is replaced with the **improved VAGP** test.

The three main categories of vaginitis are bacterial vaginosis (BV), yeast vaginitis (candidiasis), and *Trichomonas vaginalis* vaginitis (trichomoniasis). As of February 11, 2020, the **Vaginal Panel** will be performed at GMC, Danville. **Advantages include:**



1. **Broader pathogen coverage:** VAGP detects and reports 4 targets: *Gardnerella vaginalis*, *Trichomonas vaginalis* as well as both *Candida albicans*, and *Candida glabrata*, which is more likely to be associated with a drug resistant yeast infection.
2. **Improved accuracy:** The test sensitivity for the *T. vaginalis* parasite is greatly improved over that of wet mounts and over the former reference laboratory test. *Candida* species and *Gardnerella vaginalis* detection is equivalent or better than that of fungal or routine culture.
3. **Standardization:** The Collection/Transport device will change from the BD Affirm™ VP11 Ambient Temperature Transport System to the **COPAN E-swab** already used in the Geisinger System.
4. **Time to result:** Testing seven days a week will improve turnaround time.
5. **Reduced cost:** List price for the new VAGP is 45% lower than the of the cost of the former reference laboratory test, bringing better value to our patients.



Please discard your existing BD Affirm Transports and ensure adequate supply of E-swabs. During testing transition, any new VAGP test request that is submitted in the old Affirm transport, will be credited and reordered as a Miscellaneous Order and sent to Quest for the old BVAGP test.

Bacterial Vaginosis Background

Bacterial vaginosis is a vaginal inflammation caused by the overgrowth of bacteria naturally found in the vagina, which upsets the natural balance of the vaginal microbiome. Women in their reproductive years are most likely to get bacterial vaginosis, which doesn't generally cause severe complications, with the following exceptions:

- **Preterm birth.** Bacterial vaginosis is linked to premature deliveries and low birth weight babies.
- **Sexually transmitted infections.** Women are more susceptible to sexually transmitted infections, such as HIV, herpes simplex virus, chlamydia or gonorrhea. If you have HIV, bacterial vaginosis increases the odds that you'll pass the virus on to your partner.
- **Infection risk after gynecologic surgery.** Having bacterial vaginosis may increase the risk of developing a post-surgical infection after procedures such as hysterectomy or dilation and curettage (D&C).
- **Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID).** Bacterial vaginosis can sometimes cause PID, an infection of the uterus and the fallopian tubes that can increase the risk of infertility.

For questions, please contact our Analytical Specialists.

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CDC Week 5

Influenza B is STILL the predominate virus. B SMART. Its still not too late to get and give flu shots. RSV clocks in for second place last week, with Flu A/rhino-entero/and coronavirus neck and neck for third place.

