

GI Panel by PCR:

No longer to include *Clostridioides difficile* (C diff)

August 18, 2023

Effective August 22, 2023, Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories (PDL) will be making the following changes:

GI PANEL BY PCR (LAB8729)		
CHANGE:	LAB8729 GI Panel by PCR will no longer include <i>C difficile</i> (toxin A/B) PCR. For <i>C. difficile</i> infection (CDI) order test LAB10932 <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> GDH/Toxin EIA w/Rflx to PCR.	
REASON FOR CHANGE:	<i>C. difficile</i> PCR tests have been found to be over-sensitive to <i>C. difficile</i> toxin detection and are not specific to CDI, which can lead to antibiotic overuse and antibiotic-associated colitis.	
REIMBURSEMENT REMINDER:	The GI Panel test has LOCAL COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS (LCD) for reimbursement. Appropriate ICD10 coding must accompany the test request as outlined in CMS Article A58720. https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/article.aspx?articleId=58720	
PANEL INCLUDES:	<p>BACTERIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Campylobacter</i> (<i>C. jejuni</i>/<i>C. coli</i>/<i>C. upsaliensis</i>) • <i>Plesiomonas shigelloides</i>* • <i>Salmonella</i>* • <i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>* • <i>Vibrio</i> (<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i>/<i>V. vulnificus</i>/<i>V. cholerae</i>)* • <i>Vibrio cholerae</i>* <p>VIRUSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adenovirus F40/41 • Astrovirus • Norovirus GI/GII • Rotavirus A • Sapovirus (I, II, IV, and V) 	<p>DIARRHEAGENIC E. COLI/SHIGELLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Enteroaggregative E. coli</i> (EAEC) • <i>Enteropathogenic E. coli</i> (EPEC) • <i>Enterotoxigenic E. coli</i> (ETEC) <i>It/st</i> • <i>Shiga-like toxin-producing E. coli</i> (STEC) <i>stx1/stx2</i>* • <i>E. coli O157</i>* • <i>Shigella/Enteroinvasive E. coli</i> (EIEC)* <p>PARASITES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cryptosporidium</i> • <i>Cyclospora cayetanensis</i> • <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i> • <i>Giardia lamblia</i> <p>*Reflex confirmation testing is required</p>
REFLEX TESTS FOR CONFIRMATION	If DETECTED:	CONFIRMATION TEST REFLEXED:
Additional charges will be applied	<i>Plesiomonas shigelloides</i>	Stool culture
	<i>Salmonella</i>	Stool culture if isolated send to Public Health
	<i>Shigella/Enteroinvasive E. coli</i> (EIEC)	Stool culture
	<i>Shiga-like E. coli</i> (STEC) <i>stx1/stx2</i>	Send to Public Health
	<i>Shiga-like E. coli</i> (STEC) <i>stx1/stx2</i> and <i>E. coli O157</i>	Send to Public Health
	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> detected another <i>Vibrio sp.</i> , not <i>V. cholera</i> , may also be present	<i>Vibrio</i> culture
	<i>Vibrio species</i> (not <i>V. cholerae</i>)	<i>Vibrio</i> culture
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	<i>Yersinia</i> culture	