

## LAB ALERT

**Date: October 22, 2019**

### **Test Update: Change in Mycobacterium Culture Incubation Time**

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

Effective immediately, our Microbiology Laboratory will finalize AFB orders (Test Code: AFBCU) for Mycobacterium growth at 6 weeks (42 days) rather than 8 weeks. A multi-year review of previous reports determined no clinically significant Mycobacterium species were isolated after 6 weeks. We believe this change will reduce the recovery of non-clinically significant Mycobacterium, enhance the diagnostic value of laboratory results and prevent unnecessary testing and patient billing.

**If you have any questions about these changes please contact client services at 402-559-6420 and ask to speak with one of the client coordinators.**

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**24/7 Client Services    1-800-334-0459**