
LAB ALERT

Date: June 17, 2019

***Bordetella pertussis* Test Code and Specimen Requirement Changes**

Dear Regional Pathology Clients,

Effective June 20, 2019 *Bordetella pertussis* DNA Detection (current test code: BPD) will be updated to a new test code **BPERD**. The new test is capable of detecting and differentiating *Bordetella pertussis* and *parapertussis*.

B. pertussis is the causative agent of whooping cough, while *B. parapertussis* causes a similar clinical illness characterized by milder symptoms and a shorter symptom duration. Detection of *Bordetella* can be difficult, particularly later in the clinical course. In order to detect *B. pertussis* with high analytical sensitivity, the test targets IS481 which is present in large numbers in *B. pertussis*. IS481 is also present in *B. holmesii* and some *B. bronchiseptica* strains, so cross reactivity amongst these species may occur. *B. holmesii* and *B. bronchiseptica* are uncommon human pathogens.

TEST NAME: Bordetella pertussis DNA Detection **NEW TEST CODE:** BPERD

Specimen requirements for this test have been updated.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS AND STABILITY: Nasopharyngeal swab in universal transport media. **Charcoal swabs will no longer be accepted for this testing.** Charcoal swabs are still required for *Bordetella* culture (BPERT).

Other acceptable examples of universal transport are Remel M4, Remel M4RT, Remel M5, Remel M6, UTM (universal transport media), BD UVT and Liquid Aimes (ESwab) transport media.

Stable 7 days refrigerated. Testing will be performed Monday through Friday.

Interfaced Clients: Please see codes below for the interface build

<u>OrderCode</u>	<u>OrderName</u>	<u>ResultCode</u>	<u>ResultName</u>	<u>ResultUnits</u>	<u>LOINC</u>	<u>CPT</u>
BPERD	B PERTUSSIS DNA DET	BPER	B PERTUSSIS DNA		43913-3	87798
BPERD	B PERTUSSIS DNA DET	BPP	B PARAPERTUSSIS DNA		42588-4	

Please deactivate the following test code in your computer interfaces:

- Bordetella pertussis DNA Detection (BPD)

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