
LAB ALERT: New PCR Test for Group B Strep

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

We are very excited to announce a new PCR test for Group B Strep (new Test Code: GBSPCR). Effective April 23rd, 2024, the clinical microbiology laboratory will begin performing a molecular test for the detection of *Streptococcus agalactiae* (Group B *Streptococcus*; GBS) during pregnancy.

As per ACOG, AAP, ASM and CDC guidelines, PCR testing will be performed on anovaginal samples collected at 36-38 weeks of pregnancy. **PCR has been shown to increase detection of GBS in these samples compared to culture (current methodology).**

The new GBSPCR test code is the same for penicillin allergic patients; an “Ask at Order Entry” question will allow you to provide this information, or it can be written on the requisition. A positive GBS PCR will automatically reflex to culture (GBMCU) to isolate the organism and perform susceptibility testing.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:

The E-swab collection device (currently used for GBS culture), will continue to be the recommended collection swab for the PCR test.

Testing will be performed daily and results will be available 24-48 hours after the sample is received in the laboratory. Final results for positive PCR samples requiring follow up culture and susceptibility testing, will require an additional 48-72 hours following the PCR result.

Please deactivate the Group B Strep Culture code (GBSCU)

If you have any questions about this new test please contact your account executive at <https://www.reglab.org/contact-us/>

Contact Regional Pathology Services

Call: 800-334-0459 | email: pathclientservrps@unmc.edu

INTERFACE BUILD:

	OrderCode	OrderName	ResultCode	ResultName	RESULT LOINC	CPT	COMMENT
	GBSPCR	GROUP B STREP PCR	GBSSRC	GROUP B STREP SOURCE		87150	Vaginal/Rectal is the only source acceptable
			GBSPEN	GROUP B STREP PENICILLIN ALLERGY STATUS			
			GBSDNA	GROUP B STREP DNA	48683-7		
			GBSCOM	GROUP B STREP COMMENT			GBSCOM may not always be reported.
AOE for GBSPCR	Order Code	Order Description	AOE Code	AOE Name	Answer	Answer code	question type
	GBSPCR	GROUP B STREP PCR	GBSPEN	GROUP B STREP PENICILLIN ALLERGY STATUS	Yes	YES	Yes/No
Reflex order if patient is penicillin allergic and PCR is positive							
<i>Below is the standard RPS build for microbiology cultures. EHR/EMR formatting can be different for some vendors. Please contact RPS Interface Support (RPSInterfaceSupport@unmc.edu) for specific information for the vendor specific formatting.</i>							
	OrderCode	OrderName	ResultCode	ResultName	RESULT LOINC	CPT	
	GBMCU	GBS CULT, PEN ALLERG	SDES	Specimen Source	31208-2	87081	
	GBMCU	GBS CULT, PEN ALLERG	SREQ	Additional Info	48767-8		
	GBMCU	GBS CULT, PEN ALLERG	CULT	Culture Result:	41852-5		
	GBMCU	GBS CULT, PEN ALLERG	RPT	Report Status			