

10/12/21 Department Meeting Notes

General

CAP survey results:

BCID=all correct CDIFF PCR=all correct

There are currently 3 applicants for the 72 hour Medical Technologist position in Micro. One of them is scheduled to interview 10/22.

Pathology is requesting help removing tissues from their processor on some Saturdays so they don't have to come in just to do that. They will train us and let us know when we need to do it.
lab

10/14 is the go-live date for symptomatic employee self swabs. Emails were sent with the collection process, workflow, and lab pickup times along with FAQ's that the lab may be asked. I printed these emails and hung them on the side of the fridge outside my office.

Technical

Positive covid's are no longer flagging as "critical", but as "abnormal". Abnormal results do not require Comm Logs to be completed, HOWEVER, we are still calling and filling Comm Logs out for in-patients, ED patients, nursing home patients, and private physician office patients. For Express care patients, enter the .covex smartphrase in the yellow lab comment box as opposed to opening up the Comm Log box. For HCW's, enter the .empl smartphrase into the yellow lab comment box.

Pittsburg will be working on the 4-Plex Plus validation for all the hospitals so all we have to do is a mini validation once these cartridges arrive. Direction will be given with the details of this mini validation. These cartridges will replace the regular 4-Plex cartridges and offer detection of more Covid 19 targets. The single Covid cartridges will temporarily be unavailable beginning 11/1.

Please be aware that there are several different lot numbers of cartridges on our shelves with THE SAME RECEIVE date. ALL cartridges with differing lot numbers (even if received on the same day) must be QC'd. Also make sure cartridges with the oldest receive date are used first.

Harrisburg recently updated the susceptibility reporting chart, however more changes are probably coming. All hospitals were to submit what they are currently capable of reporting and this will be presented at a meeting 10/22. An updated plan will be contrived then. One major discrepancy I noticed was that we are signing out CD, E, and Te on MSSA from blood cultures. This is not accepted practice, so begin immediately suppressing these susceptibilities. This is on our current chart.

Please document which bottle(s) is/are positive when reporting positive blood cultures. It is very difficult to determine when 2:4 bottles are positive if they are from the same set, or 1 from each set. This is very important information clinically. Smartphrases were built to enter into the box to the right of the organism in the gram stain tab. They are .fae (from aerobic bottle), .fan (from anaerobic bottle), and .faean (from aerobic and anaerobic bottles). There are also smartphrases for bottles that are still negative; .anbn (anaerobic bottle negative), .aebn (aerobic bottle negative).