**11/16 Dept. Meeting Notes**

**General:** Flu shot deadline extended to 11/29

 Trisha Griffin starting 11/29!

 $500 UPMC Employee appreciation will be distributed 11/26-powerpoint presentation available if anyone wants to see employee appreciation initiatives

**Technical:** Amox/Clavulanate and Aztreonam now being charted on all Enterics. See handouts for other updates.

 Handout also available for nomenclature changes. Will have to keep an eye out for these less commonly seen organisms for update in Vitek.

 Positive Group B PCR’s on penicillin allergic patients can now have sensitivities ordered directly under the PCR specimen number. Choose “add susceptibility” and then choose correct panel (ST02).

 Verification panel being ordered for validation of the 4-plex Plus cartridges. It is a “mini” validation, however QC will have to be run every week for the first 4 weeks of testing.

 To further align with Harrisburg, will change procedure to include Tobramycin disk instead of ceftazidime in the Pseudomonas Kirby Bauer procedure.

 Oxacillin comment no longer has to be added to Staph susceptibilities per Erik Hernandez. Physicians should already be aware of this information.

 The Microscan has been approved! It will be here by the end of the year. Discussions are taking place with Harrisburg and Carlisle regarding panel types and identification procedures.

 I am looking in to possibly doing positive C. diff toxin typing on site using a rapid kit method. Also looking to bring back shiga toxin testing since this is an important test that should be included with every stool culture. Will have to consider specimen requirements as far as transport to the lab and using the Cary Blair media.