

Memorandum

To: Tanner Clinic Providers
From: Allison Shaw, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} Laboratory Manager
Date: 7/29/20
Re: Vaginal Panel, Group B Strep, and STD Testing Shortages

We've been struggling for several weeks to get our supply orders. The manufacturer informed us they're on allocation due to production decreases as a result of COVID-19. The allocation will likely be in effect for several more months as they work to increase production lines. To avoid running out of test kits, we'll now be batching all testing to reduce the number of tests used for daily QC.

Turnaround times may increase by a day or 2.

We've also explored possibilities for a backup option for all 3 tests in case we run out of supplies.

- GBS – We'll revert to the old culture method as needed. This won't impact you in any way since collection is the same.
- Vaginal panel – We can revert to saline prep if needed. At this time, we won't open this up to all tests with the exception of the previous insurance related concern and for all other patients only if we run out of kits. Another option is ordering a BD Affirm test through Associates of Pathology. If you want to explore this option in place of a saline prep, let me know so collection kits can be ordered through Associates of Pathology.
- STD testing – Since we no longer have access to the state courier and it would be difficult to set this up on a temporary basis, Lab Corp has a test option, test code 180093. The collection kit is different, so we'll make sure you have what's needed for collection before we run out of supplies if that becomes our only option.

If you have any questions or concerns with any of the above information, please don't hesitate to contact me at extension 3322.

Thanks,
Allison Shaw