July 24, 2018

**Cyclospora Testing**
The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) has reported an increase of *Cyclospora* infections in the state of Iowa. If only *Cyclospora* testing is requested, please order a Miscellaneous Blood Test and add “Stool for *Cyclospora* stain to SHL” as a note. *Cyclospora* testing is not included in OP Basic or OP Expanded. Please submit the stool sample in the Total Fix transport container at room temperature.

*Cyclospora* Modified Acid Fast Stain sent to SHL
CPT   Price
87015, 87207   $31.77

For those performing stool PCR testing, IDPH has requested that samples positive for *Cyclospora* by multiplex PCR should be sent to the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) for further characterization. Mercy Clinical Laboratory offers the BioFire® FilmArray® Gastrointestinal Panel which includes *Cyclospora* (specimen is preserved stool in Cary Blair transport media) and any positive samples for this parasite will be sent to the SHL. For more information about the Cyclospora outbreak: [https://idph.iowa.gov/News/ArtMID/646/ArticleID/158228/Cyclospora-Infections-Associated-with-Salad-at-Fast-Food-Chain-71218](https://idph.iowa.gov/News/ArtMID/646/ArticleID/158228/Cyclospora-Infections-Associated-with-Salad-at-Fast-Food-Chain-71218)

**C. difficile Testing**
The *C difficile* PCR test name has been changed to *Clostridiodes difficile* Toxin by PCR to reflect the renaming of this organism. The old test name was *Clostridium difficile* Toxin by PCR.

**Change in T and B Cell, Helper Suppressor, and Flow Panels**
The following panels (listed in bold below) have been changed to add WBC with differential or CBC with differential. We no longer will need your test results; rather we ask that you collect a lavender tube and submit that tube for us to perform the additional testing necessary for the analysis requested. If you are integrated with us or using Atlas, please note effective Aug. 1, 2018, the Atlas requisition and label will show an order for the CBC/diff or WBC/diff with an additional label for the lavender tube. Please submit all specimens together for this testing. You will also receive an IT update with the appropriate codes needed for IT code mapping purposes. We will be rebuilding these orderables on our side to reflect the panel including the CBC/diff or WBC/diff...CBC results do not need to be sent, just a lavender tube for us to obtain the results we need to perform the analysis for these panels. Please note MCL will bill for all testing in this panel.

The panels impacted are listed below.
**T and B cell panel-to include WBC w/diff**
**Helper Suppressor panel -to include WBC w/diff**
**Flow panel-to include CBC w/diff**

Thank you for choosing Mercy Clinical Laboratory.