ACL Laboratories Updates Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel Testing for Detection of Gastroenteritis

October 2021

Effective immediately, ACL Laboratories has changed the test methodology for the Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (Test Order Code LAB9037). There has been a significant shortage with molecular testing reagents due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which has made it difficult to obtain reagents for our current testing methodology. While this change is necessary based on reagent availability, there are several benefits to the new test including:

- Turnaround time will be significantly decreased.
- Testing will now be performed daily 24/7.
- The new test detects more bacterial, viral, and parasitic causes of gastroenteritis than the previous test.
- A significant difference for this test compared to the previous methodology is that *Clostridium difficile* will be included in the panel. In the event that *C. difficile* is detected, the *C. difficile* toxin EIA test will also be performed as we currently do for the standalone *C. difficile* PCR test.

Testing will now be performed using the BioFire FilmArray GI Panel, which detects the following organisms:

Adenovirus F 40/41
Astrovirus
Campylobacter species (C. jejuni/C. coli/C. upsaliensis)
Clostridium difficile
Plesiomonas shigelloides
Cryptosporidium
Cyclospora cayetanensis
Entamoeba histolytica
Enteroaggregative *Escherichia coli* (EAEC)
Enteropathogenic *E. coli* (EPEC)
Enterotoxigenic *E. coli lt/st* (ETEC)
Giardia lamblia
Norovirus Genotypes I and II
Rotavirus A
Salmonella species
Sapovirus (Genogroups I, II, IV, and V)
Shiga-like toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC; including specific identification of serotype O157)
Shigella/Enteroinvasive *E. coli* (EIEC)
Vibrio species (V. parahaemolyticus/V. vulnificus/V. cholerae; V. cholerae is identified to species level*)*
Yersinia enterocolitica

Please contact ACL Laboratories Client Services Department at 800.877.7016 with any questions regarding this updated panel.