

Laboratory *News*

VOL. 41, NO. 6 - OCTOBER 29, 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**NEW MOLECULAR
FECAL BACTERIAL
PATHOGENS PANEL
TO REPLACE SSCSNAT
ASSAY.....1**

**LIPOPROTEIN A NOW
A SEND OUT TEST2**

**FETAL LAMELLAR
BODY COUNT TO BE
DISCONTINUED2**

NEW MOLECULAR FECAL BACTERIAL PATHOGENS PANEL TO REPLACE SSCSNAT ASSAY

Timothy S. Uphoff, PhD, DABMG, Molecular Pathology Laboratory

On October 22, 2018, Marshfield Labs introduced a new polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplified fecal bacterial pathogen panel to replace the existing PCR Nucleic Acid Test (NAT) panel; the test code will remain the same (test code = SSCSNAT).

The new test offers equivalent performance for the detection of *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Campylobacter* (*C. jejuni* and *C. coli* species only) and Shiga Toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC, otherwise known as enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* or EHEC) serotype O157:H7 and others. The only difference between the two panels is that while the new assay detects both Shiga Toxin 1 & 2, it does not differentiate between the two.

HOW TO ORDER THIS TEST

- Test Name: Fecal Bacteria-only Pathogen Panel, NAT
- Test Code: SSCSNAT
- Keywords: Fecal Pathogens, Bacterial, Nucleic Acid Test
- Specimen Type: Raw stool
- Preferred Container: Cary-Blair (Parapak C&S)
- Specimen Size: 1.0 gram or enough stool to raise the liquid level in Cary-Blair (Parapak C&S) container to indicator line.
- Rejection Criteria: Insufficient amount (less than 1 gram), frozen stool, rectal swabs, more than one specimen in 24 hours.
- Storage: Liquid or soft stools [raw stool or in Cary-Blair (Parapak C&S)]: 24 hrs ambient (2-25°C), 5 days refrigerated (2-8°C).
- Performing Lab: Marshfield Center
- Test Availability: Daily



- CPT Code: 87505
- Qualitative Interpretation: Reported as Negative, Positive, or Indeterminate for *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Campylobacter* and Shiga toxin. Indeterminate results are inconclusive. Repeat testing with a new specimen is recommended.

Results can be found in CMR under: •Lab By Date •Lab By Panel.

QUESTIONS

- Clinical and technical information: Timothy S. Uphoff, PhD, Molecular Pathology Laboratory.
- Phone number: 1-800-222-5835. 📞

LIPOPROTEIN A NOW A SEND OUT TEST

Roxanne Willadsen, Assistant Manager, Immunodiagnosics Laboratory

Effective October 5, 2018, Marshfield Labs ceased to perform Lipoprotein (a) [Lp(a)] testing via Nephelometry. All Lp(a) testing will be sent to Mayo Laboratories. The test code will be **LIPASO**. The specimen is serum and testing will be performed Monday-Saturday.

Lp(a) is an inherited, highly atherogenic molecule associated with coronary heart disease (CHD). It is considered an independent risk factor as elevated levels are seen in patients with CHD, cerebrovascular disease, and type II diabetes. When testing Lp(a) as a risk factor, it should not be measured during periods of inflammation as Lp(a) is an acute phase reactant. It should not be measured for at least one month following a myocardial infarction or stroke. Lp(a) is not recommended as a screening test in the healthy population. 📞

FETAL LAMELLAR BODY COUNT TO BE DISCONTINUED

Gene R. Shaw, MD, Hematopathology

Effective December 31, 2018, Marshfield Laboratories will no longer offer the Fetal Lamellar Body Count (test code = **LBC**) performed on amniotic fluid. This test to assess lung maturity in preterm infants is no longer being used by obstetricians. Other means of assessing fetal-maternal health (e.g., more advanced imaging) are now used to direct care.

A Fetal Lamellar Body Count has not been performed by Marshfield Labs in over a year. If a sample is submitted for this test, it will be forwarded to Mayo Laboratories which performs same day testing every day of the week. Providers at Mayo also rarely, if ever, use this test.

QUESTIONS

- Clinical and technical information: Gene R. Shaw, MD, Hematopathology.
- Phone number: 1-800-222-5835. 📞