

Memo

To: AML Reference Laboratory Clients
From: Allina Medical Laboratories, Reference Laboratory Services
Date: August 6, 2007
Re: Clostridium difficile Culture No Longer Offered

Due to low volume usage and problems with proper collection, *effective immediately* AML will no longer offer the Clostridium difficile Culture (2483/CDC). The preferred test for primary testing for C. difficile is the Clostridium difficile Toxin A/B (6588/CDT). Test information and specimen requirements for the C. difficile Toxin A/B are as follows:

Test Name: CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE TOXIN A/B

Test Number: 6588/CDT
Collect: Liquid or Soft Stool
Container: Plastic Screw Cap Vial or Cary Blair (C&S) Transport
Processing: Screw Cap Vials: Deliver within 48 hrs. Cary Blair
Deliver within 5 days
Transport/Stability: Refrigerated/*Ambient
Performing Lab: AML
Collection/
Processing Details: To yield best diagnostic results, the Allina Infectious Disease Physician/Pharmacy task force recommends that testing be performed on diarrheal stools only. *Cary Blair vials may be transported at ambient temperature. FORMED STOOLS ARE UNACCEPTABLE.

CPT Codes: 87324