

Test Bulletin



Dear Healthcare Provider,

The information contained here may be very important to your practice. Please take a moment to review this document.

MIC Breakpoints Update: Tobramycin October 2024

The Microbiology Department of Alverno Laboratories validated new tobramycin CLSI MIC breakpoints and interpretations for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. **See page 3 for details.**

Listeria Antibody by Complement Fixation Discontinuation November 14, 2024

Effective November 14, 2024, Quest Diagnostics discontinued offering Listeria Antibody by Complement Fixation testing without a replacement offering. **See page 3 for details.**

Urine Drug Monitoring via Quest: Test Updates December 2024

The replacement test for the previously discontinued synthetic cannabinoid urine drug monitoring test performed at Quest Diagnostics is now interfaced and includes additional novel psychoactive substances. **See page 4 for details.**

AFB Collection Bottle: Supply Update December 2024

The glass collection bottles for AFB (acid fast bacilli) cultures will no longer be available from the vendor. An alternative plastic specimen collection bottle has been validated and is available for ordering. **See page 4 for details.**

Cystic Fibrosis Sputum Culture: New Offering December 2024

The Microbiology Department at Alverno Laboratories is pleased to offer a new Cystic Fibrosis Sputum Culture. **See page 5 for details.**

Reactivation of Quest Tests December 2024

Quest Diagnostics has reactivated tests for *Streptococcus pneumoniae* antibody (IgG) for 12, 14, and 23 serotypes. **See page 5 for details.**

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Thyroglobulin & Thyroglobulin Antibody: Test Update December 2024

Testing for thyroglobulin and thyroglobulin antibody is now being performed with a new assay formulation that has remediated biotin interference. **See page 5 for details.**

Alverno 2025 CPT Code Updates January 2025

The American Medical Association (AMA) has made Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) code changes to the 2025 edition of the CPT. Alverno will be implementing these changes effective January 1, 2025. **See page 6 for details.**



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MIC Breakpoints Update: Tobramycin October 2024

CLSI has announced new tobramycin MIC breakpoints and interpretations for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The Microbiology Department of Alverno Laboratories is in the process of validating these breakpoints via Etest MIC methodology. When completed, Etest will be performed **only upon request**. Please review the table below for the new dilutions and interpretations.

Tobramycin MIC Breakpoints for <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>		
Interpretation	Old Dilution	New Dilution
S, susceptible	≤ 4	≤ 1
I, intermediate	8	2
R, resistant	≥ 16	≥ 4

Listeria Antibody by Complement Fixation Discontinuation November 14, 2024

Effective November 14, 2024, Quest Diagnostics will discontinue offering Listeria Antibody by Complement Fixation testing without a replacement offering.

Inactivated Test: LIST - Listeria Antibody, CF, Serum

New Test Code & Name: No replacement

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Urine Drug Monitoring via Quest: Test Updates December 2024

The replacement test for the previously discontinued synthetic cannabinoid urine drug monitoring test performed at Quest Diagnostics is now interfaced and includes additional novel psychoactive substances. Please see below for further information. Full details can be found in the online Collection Manual located at www.AlvernoLabs.com.

Inactivated Test: SYNCC – Drug Monitoring, Synthetic Cannabinoids with Confirmation, Urine

Replacement Quest Test Code: 13086

Replacement Quest Name: Drug Monitoring, Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS), Qualitative, Urine

Soft Code: NPSQU

Specimen Type: 3 mL urine collected in a plastic urine container

Transport Temperature: Refrigerated

CPT: 80346, 80352, 80354, 80364, 80371, 80375

Includes:

- Designer benzodiazepines
- Designer fentanyl analogs
- Designer opioids
- Designer stimulants
- Synthetic cannabinoids
- Other illicit additives

AFB Collection Bottle: Supply Update December 2024

For AFB (acid fast bacilli) cultures, the vendor will no longer be supplying the glass collection bottles. An alternative plastic specimen collection bottle has been validated and is available to order via Workday and the Supply Request form located at www.AlvernoLabs.com. Please see below for ordering information.

Discontinued Item: 154216 – Culture Vials Bactec Myco F Lytic

Replacement Item: 727901 – Medium Culture Bactec Myco F Lytic Plstc

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Cystic Fibrosis Sputum Culture: New Offering December 2024

Alverno Laboratories is pleased to offer a new Cystic Fibrosis Sputum Culture in December 2024. In addition to routine bacterial culture plates, this test will also include media for the selection of *Burkholderia cepacia* as well as a MRSA/MSSA screening plate. Please see below for additional details.

Soft Code: CFSPU

Soft Test Name: Cystic Fibrosis Sputum Culture

Preferred Specimen: Sputum, bronchial aspirate/washing, sinus aspirate, bronchoalveolar lavage, endotracheal or tracheal specimen collected in a sterile container from a cystic fibrosis patient

Other Acceptable Specimens: Deep pharyngeal swab

Stability: 2 hours at 15-30°C or 24 hours at 2-8°C

Transport: Refrigerated

Reactivation of Quest Tests December 2024

Quest Diagnostics has reactivated the following tests:

- 12SPN – Streptococcus pneumoniae Antibody IgG (12 Serotypes), MAID
- 14SPN – Streptococcus pneumoniae Antibody IgG (14 Serotypes), MAID
- 23SPN – Streptococcus pneumoniae Antibody IgG (23 Serotypes), MAID

It is no longer necessary to order these as UNCMS. Please view the online Collection Manual available at www.AlvernoLabs.com.

Thyroglobulin & Thyroglobulin Antibody: Test Update December 2024

Alverno Laboratories has recently begun testing of thyroglobulin and thyroglobulin antibody with a new assay formulation that has remediated biotin interference. The affected Soft test codes are TYHEM and THGMN.

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Alverno 2025 CPT Code Updates January 2025

The American Medical Association (AMA) has made Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) code changes to the 2025 edition of the CPT.

Alverno will be implementing these changes effective January 1, 2025.

Alverno Test	2024 CPT	2025 CPT Updates	CPT Code Long Description	Performing Lab
HPVGN: HPV, High- Risk DNA with genotypes 16 and 18 Note: Test Build update coming early 2025	87624	87626 (new)	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); Human Papillomavirus (HPV), separately reported high-risk types (eg. 16, 18, 31, 45, 51, 52) and high-risk pooled result(s)	Alverno
23SPN: Streptococcus pneumoniae Ab (IgG) (23 Serotypes), MAID	86317 x23	86581 (new)	Streptococcus pneumoniae antibody (IgG), serotypes, multiplex immunoassay, quantitative	Quest
14SPN: Streptococcus pneumoniae Ab (IgG) (14 Serotypes)	86317 x14	86581 (new)	Streptococcus pneumoniae antibody (IgG), serotypes, multiplex immunoassay, quantitative	Quest
12SPN: Streptococcus pneumoniae Ab (IgG) (12 Serotypes)	86317 x12	86581 (new)	Streptococcus pneumoniae antibody (IgG), serotypes, multiplex immunoassay, quantitative	Quest
PJIRP: Pneumocystis jirovecii by PCR	87798	87594 (new)	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); Pneumocystis jirovecii, amplified probe technique	Quest
MTRIF (Micro billing charge. Not orderable test.)	87556; 87798	87564 (new)	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); Mycobacterium tuberculosis, rifampin resistance, amplified probe technique	Alverno
BFPAN: Respiratory Panel by PCR	87633; 87798 x2; 87486; 87581	0202U	Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA), 22 targets including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), qualitative RT-PCR, nasopharyngeal swab, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected	Alverno
MTRPC: M. Tuberculosis & Rifampin Res. Culture/PCR, Sputum CPT 87801 replaced with 87564	87015, 87116, 87206, 87801 (replaced)	87564 (new), 87015, 87116, 87206	Quest Test: Mycobacterium tuberculosis Complex, Rifampin Resistance, Culture/PCR, Sputum	Quest
HBPC: Hereditary Breast Cancer Panel CPT 81433 has been deleted	81432, 81433 (deleted)	81432	Hereditary Breast Cancer Panel	Quest

Note: The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.

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