

May 5, 2025

To: All Greater Peoria Service Area Carle Health Facilities

From: Carle Health: Peoria Service Area Laboratories

### INFORM: Change to Biofire Gastrointestinal Pathogens Panel

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#### INFORM:

Carle Health Peoria Service Area is making an important update to our Biofire Gastrointestinal Pathogens Panel. Effective **5/13/2025**, *C. difficile* will be removed from the GI panel. This change is being implemented to standardize ordering practices across Carle locations, and to reduce inappropriate ordering on inpatients who have been admitted for over three days.

#### Key Points:

- If physicians want to test for **C. difficile**, they must order the stand-alone test, **C. DIFFICILE DETECTION**, Epic test code **CDTX2**.  
(Please note: *C DIFF Toxin Test* will reflex if *C. Diff* is detected in testing.)
  - Samples with a previous *clostridium difficile* Toxin testing performed within 7 days or a previous positive result within 6 weeks will be rejected
- **Gastrointestinal Pathogens Panel**, EPIC test code GPP, should not be ordered on patients who have been admitted for greater than three days, as the literature shows that the chance of community acquired diarrhea in the hospital is very low. If you have an inpatient with diarrhea, please order the stand-alone **C. DIFFICILE DETECTION**, Epic test code **CDTX2** following the appropriate algorithm (no laxatives, etc).
  - If a GI panel is needed for other reasons (e.g., symptoms that started greater than 3 days prior to hospitalization, nosocomial Norovirus outbreak, etc.), prior approval from the laboratory is required. Contact Methodist Microbiology at 309-672-4911.
  - **Reminder:** *C. difficile* molecular testing is not a test of cure. Do not order the standalone test within six weeks following a positive result. For extenuating circumstances, please contact Carle Health Infectious Disease or Methodist Microbiology at 309-672-4911

**CLOSING:** We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we implement this change. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Microbiology Technical Coordinator.

If you have any questions, please contact us:

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