



To: Penn Medicine Physicians and Staff

Date: September 27, 2021

From: Charlene Bierl MD, PhD on behalf of PennLab  
Penn Medicine Center for Evidence-based Practice

**Re: Procalcitonin Reporting Changes**

Evidence-based guidelines for inpatient use of procalcitonin (PCT) testing to guide antibiotic discontinuation for sepsis or lower respiratory tract infection have been established by the Penn Medicine Center for Evidence-based Practice (CEP), in collaboration with the Antimicrobial Subcommittee of P&T, Sepsis Alliance, Critical Care Collaborative, and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

This guidance has been established for the inpatient setting only; evidence is insufficient to provide guidance in ED and ambulatory settings.

The existing inpatient PennChart PCT order has been redesigned to improve provider ordering. Additionally, PCT results now contain detailed guidance for serial PCT testing and antibiotic discontinuation based on indication and result for inpatient PCT orders.

For more information, please visit the PennPathways library or contact us at [CEP@pennmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:CEP@pennmedicine.upenn.edu).