

Laboratory Testing Update

Date: December 20, 2023

To: Infectious Disease and Pulm/ICU providers who order the Pneumonia Panel test

RE: Safety Notice for potential false positive seasonal Coronavirus results with Biofire Pneumonia Panel

Biomerieux, manufacturer of Biofire Pneumonia Panel assay, has identified potential for false positive seasonal Coronavirus results when using this assay.

Investigations have identified the false positive results are due to non-specific amplification or cross-reactivity with high concentrations of human genomic DNA (hgDNA) which could be present in clinical specimens.

False positive test results may reduce likelihood of identifying the true cause of patient's disease and lead to incorrect diagnosis thereby affecting decisions related to appropriate treatment. **PLP laboratory will discontinue reporting of the seasonal Coronavirus target (not SARS-CoV-2) until notice from Biomerieux that the issue of false positivity has been resolved.**

If you have additional questions about this change, please contact Renee Thompson, Microbiology Manager, at 859-301-2012.