
Temporary Change in Mycobacteriology Testing

Dear Regional Pathology Services Client,

Due to construction which will impact the Microbiology Laboratory, mycobacteriology (TB) testing will temporarily be sent to our reference laboratory (ARUP). The change will begin November 3rd and last through approximately February 1st.

This does **NOT** affect TB Interferon Antigen Response testing, aka QuantiFERON TB Gold (Test Code TBINTF).

Tests impacted:

- Culture, AFB, including acid fast stain (Test Code AFBCU)
- Culture, AFB, blood (Test Code AFBBL)
- AFB/Mycobacterium Identification (Test Code AFBIS)

There will be increased turnaround times for some mycobacteriology results. Test order codes and reporting do not change.

- AFB (acid-fast bacilli) stains will require an additional 24-48 hours for results.
- Final negative culture reports will be reported at 8 weeks instead of 6 weeks, as ARUP routinely incubates negative cultures for an additional 2 weeks. *Positive cultures will continue to be reported immediately upon detection of growth.*

Mycobacterium tuberculosis Amplified Direct Detection (Test Code TBAPR) will continue to be performed in-house.

- Please be aware that we will temporarily be using unprocessed specimens, which require at least 1.0 mL.

We appreciate your understanding and patience during this temporary transition.

Contact Regional Pathology Services

Call: 800-334-0459 | email: pathclientservrps@unmc.edu