



Laboratory Update

Non-Urgent Result Notification Process Update

The Laboratory Call Center is updating its process for communicating non-urgent test results to providers. Currently, the call center continues to make verbal notifications even when results have already been electronically acknowledged in EPIC. With enhanced communication capabilities in EPIC—specifically electronic result acknowledgments—there is an opportunity to reduce duplicate outreach and streamline workflows.

Under this updated process, the Laboratory Call Center will no longer place calls for non-emergent test results that have already been acknowledged by the care team in EPIC. Calls will continue for non-urgent results that remain unacknowledged. This change does not affect the notification process for critical results.

Effective 01/28/26, the Laboratory Call Center will contact providers regarding approved non-emergent test results only when an EPIC acknowledgment has not been completed. This approach aligns with EPIC's built-in functionality, reduces unnecessary interruptions, and allows providers to focus more time on direct patient care.



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Obsolete Test - *Streptococcus pneumoniae* Antigen:

The *Streptococcus pneumoniae* urinary antigen test is discontinued from the System's laboratory formulary due to its limited clinical value and low diagnostic yield. Recent evidence and updated IDSA/ATS guidelines show that the test has low sensitivity and a very low positive rate, and results rarely change clinical management because empiric treatment for community-acquired pneumonia (CAP) already covers *S. pneumoniae*. In addition, the test's continued use consumes significant resources, costing an estimated \$14,000 per positive result. No meaningful impact on inpatient CAP therapy is expected, as current recommended empiric regimens remain appropriate.

Providers will no longer be able to order the *S. pneumoniae* urinary antigen test and are suggested to continue using clinical evaluation, imaging, and standard microbiologic testing to guide CAP management. For any questions, please reach out to Laboratory Services or Infection Prevention & Control.