

**LABORATORY OUTREACH UPDATE
APRIL 2010**

STOOL CULTURE CHANGES

Effective April 14, 2010 Bellin Lab will begin routinely testing stool specimens submitted for enteric pathogens for Shiga toxins as recommended by the Center for Disease Control. The recently published recommendations state that all clinical labs should include tests for STEC (Shiga toxin producing E coli) stool specimens submitted for routine culture.

Shiga toxin producing Escherichia coli (STEC) are a leading cause of bacterial enteric infections in the U. S. Prompt diagnosis of STEC infection is important because appropriate treatment early in the course of infection might decrease the risk for serious complications such as renal damage and improve overall patient outcome

The STEC assay will be part of the routine stool culture. E coli 0157 will no longer be reported separately because the STEC assay detects 0157 serotypes. A separate test for E coli 0157 will also no longer be available.

Specimen requirements will not change. Stool cultures must continue to be received in the orange-capped Para-Pak C&S containers at room temperature within 48 hours of collection. Specimen should be placed into the media within 1 hour of collection. Analytic time remains at 24-36 hours after receipt at Bellin Lab.

There will be a change in the CPT coding and price.

<u>Current</u>	<u>New</u>
87046 x 2	87046 Campylobacter
87045	87045 Salmonella and Shigella
	87427 Shiga toxin
	87015 Concentration for infections agents

The current base client price is \$20.10 – the new base client price is \$32.00.

Please call Bellin Lab at 433-3650 for more information or visit the CDC website listed below.
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5812a1.htm>

CORRECTION – MAYO SPECIMEN CHANGE

In the March 2010 Laboratory Update, there was an incorrect entry regarding the Cytochrome testing such as CYP2C19 AND CYP2D6. Instead of the specimen requirement of ACD whole blood as indicated, the specimen must be collected in EDTA whole blood. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.