

MEMORANDUM

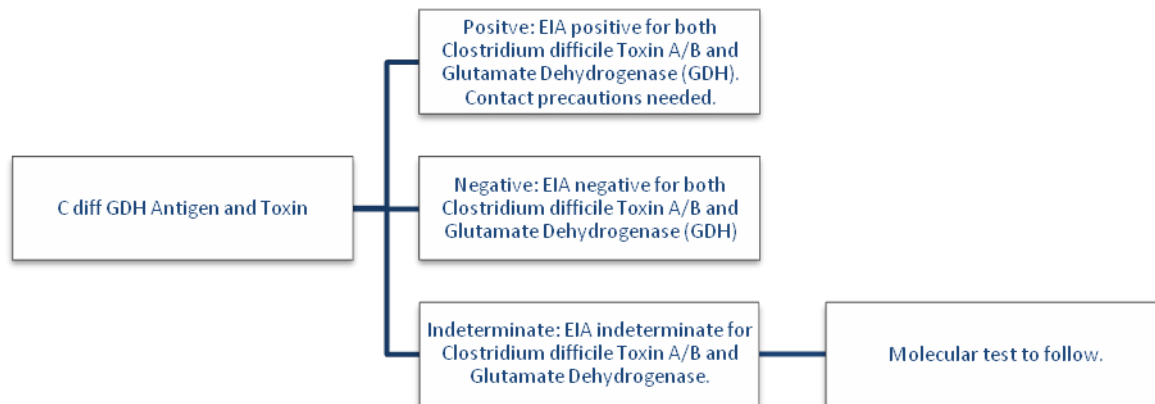
TO: All Regional Medical Laboratory Clients
FROM: Kat Herman, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}SM, Manager of Microbiology
 Gerald C. Miller, PhD, Chief of Microbiology and Immunology
DATE: August 11, 2016
SUBJECT: **Clostridium Difficile Testing Update**

Regional Medical Laboratory is pleased to announce the implementation of a new algorithm for enhanced detection of *Clostridium difficile*. The C Diff Analyzer will test for the *C. difficile* antigen and toxin in stool and reflex to the molecular assay when required. Studies have shown by implementing this 2-step algorithm that testing for *C. difficile* is more cost effective for patients and assists in distinguishing between infection and colonization.

The first step in the C Diff Analyzer is a rapid membrane enzyme immunoassay for the simultaneous detection of *Clostridium difficile* glutamate dehydrogenase antigen and toxins A and B. The assay detects *C. difficile* antigen, glutamate dehydrogenase as a screen for the presence of *C. difficile* and confirms the presence of toxigenic *C. difficile* by detecting toxins A and B in fecal specimens from persons suspected of having *C. difficile* disease.

Positive results are indicative of active infection while negative results effectively exclude infection. Results considered indeterminate with the combination antigen and toxin test will automatically reflex to the molecular assay to detect the presence of *C. difficile* DNA.

RML C DIFF ANALYZER



The algorithm will be available for our clients to start ordering on August 29, 2016.

Ordering Information:

Test mnemonic: C Diff An

Test code: [17262993](#)

CPT Codes: 87324 and 87449

LOINC 57901-1, 34468-9.

*If reflex to the molecular test is required, the CPT code is 87493.