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Test Update: *Mycoplasma genitalium*

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Effective today, **February 12, 2018**, PathGroup offers testing for *Mycoplasma genitalium,* intended for use as an aid in the diagnosis of *M. genitalium* urogenital infections in male and female patients.

ORDERING INFORMATION:

PATHGROUP TEST CODE	PATHGROUP TEST NAME	CPT
MYCOGENL	*Mycoplasma genitalium*, Aptima	87798

M. genitalium is a sexually-transmitted gram-negative bacterium that lives on and in the epithelial cells of the urinary and genital tracts of men and women. In general risk populations, *M. genitalium* prevalence of 1% to 3% has been reported in both men and women.[i] In high risk STI/STD populations, prevalence of 10% to 41% in men and 7.3% to 14% in women has been reported.[ii] The prevalence of *M. genitalium* in higher risk populations often exceeds that of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and is similar to the prevalence of *Chlamydia trachomatis.*[iii]

Infection with *M. genitalium has been* shown to be strongly associated with non-gonococcal urethritis in men, and cervicitis, pelvic inflammatory disease, preterm birth, spontaneous abortion, and infertility in women. Testing for *M. genitalium* may be appropriate in patients who have had persistent symptoms after treatment for other sexually transmitted diseases that can cause similar symptoms. Antibiotics commonly used to treat Chlamydia and gonorrhea are often ineffective against *M. genitalium,* so accurate and timely identification is crucial. Increasing prevalence of macrolide and quinolone resistance needs to be taken into account in the management of the disease[iv]. The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the use of nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) for detecting *M. genitalium* due to the fastidious nature of the bacterium and difficultly to culture.[v]

Test codes, test specifications and pricing will remain the same. No action is required of PathGroup accounts or providers.

PATHGROUP TEST METHODOLOGY:

Nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) via Transcription Mediated Amplification (TMA) on the Aptima™ Panther ™system

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SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND STORAGE:

SPECIMEN CONTAINER:

Acceptable specimen collection devices include the following:

- PreserveCyt (ThinPrep) - collected cervical and vaginal specimens
- Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit - Endocervical and Male Urethral Swab Specimens
- Aptima Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit
- Aptima Urine Specimen Collection Kit
- Urine in sterile container
- BD Universal Swab

SPECIMEN STABILITY: 21 Days after receipt of sample

UNACCEPTABLE CONDITIONS:

- Specimens collected in media other than the recommended ThinPrep Vial, BD Universal Swab, Aptima Swabs, Aptima Urine collection tubes or urine in sterile container.
- Specimen vials with less than required volumes.
- Frozen specimens
- Serum

TEST PERFORMED: Monday - Friday

TURNAROUND TIME: 48 - 72 hours

Additional test details can be found at https://www.testmenu.com/PathGroup/Tests/868966.

For further questions, please contact Client Services at 615-562-9300 or 1-888-474-5227.

[i] Oakeshott, P., A. Aghaizu, P. Hay, F. Reid, S. Kerry, H. Atherton, I. Simms, D. Taylor-Robinson, B. Dohn, and J. S. Jensen. 2010. Is *Mycoplasma genitalium* in women the "new chlamydia?" A community-based prospective cohort study. Clin. Infect. Dis. 51:1160-1166. doi:10.1086/656739.

[ii] CDC. 2015. Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines, 2015. https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/hiv.htm

[iii] Gaydos, C., N. E. Maldeis, A. Hardick, J. Hardick, and T. C. Quinn. 2009a. *Mycoplasma genitalium* as a contributor to the multiple etiologies of cervicitis in women attending sexually transmitted disease clinics. Sex. Transm. Dis. 36:598-606. doi:10.1097/OLQ.0b013e3181b01948.

[iv] Jensen and Bradshaw. Management of *Mycoplasma genitalium* infections – can we hit a moving target? BMC Infectious Diseases (2015) 15:343

[v] CDC. 2015. Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines, 2015. https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/hiv.htm