

# LABORATORY SERVICES

*Important Test Updates – 05/13/2022*

## New Molecular Group A Strep Testing Method

Production of the GenProbe Group A Strep rRNA test is being discontinued by the manufacturer. As a result, the existing Group A Strep rRNA GenProbe test (GASDRP) will be retired, and replaced with **Group A Strep, Molecular (GASM)** effective May 16, 2022.

The new Group A Strep, Molecular (GASM) test is a highly sensitive and specific nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) that detects *Streptococcus pyogenes* nucleic acid from throat swabs of patients with signs and symptoms of pharyngitis. Like previously, this testing eliminates the need for bacterial culture confirmation.

The new GASM test will require the same COPAN/BBL dual/single culture swab in liquid Stuart's transport media. **Only throat swabs are acceptable. The test name will change to Group A Strep, Molecular (Order code GASM) but the reporting will look very similar.**

**For more information about Molecular Group A Strep testing, please contact Nationwide Children's Laboratory Services at (614) 722-5477.**

