

March 17, 2015

## **NEW TEST BULLETIN**

### Group A Streptococcus, DNA Amplified

Dear Valued Client:

WMPL is pleased to announce that we will now offer the *illumigene*<sup>®</sup> Group A Strep test, a molecular assay that can provide a definitive Strep Throat diagnosis. Accurate diagnosis of streptococcal pharyngitis followed by appropriate antibiotic therapy is important for the prevention and control of Group A Strep infections. *illumigene*<sup>®</sup> Group A Strep detects *Streptococcus pyogenes* in throat swab specimens. The test procedure is remarkably simple and highly sensitive. The test is ideal for helping in early diagnosis and proper patient management of this common, sometimes serious disease.

Group A Streptococcus, DNA amplification offers advantages over traditional rapid antigen and culture tests, including:

- ✓ Increased detection of positives by 53% over traditional culture in symptomatic patients
- ✓ Best overall performance for a stand-alone Group A Strep test
- ✓ Clear, objective evaluation of positive/negative test results
- ✓ Molecular DNA amplification

<b>NEW Test Code</b>	<b>NEW CPT Code</b>	<b>Specimen Requirements</b>
1252	87651	Throat swab sample (Liquid Amies, without charcoal; Liquid Stuart)

**For further questions, please ask your WPML Representative or call our technical services team at (877) 537-LABS (5227).**

#### REFERENCES

Shulman et al. Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Group A Streptococcal Pharyngitis: 2012 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America.