Vaginal Pathogen Panel by DNA Probe
Offered at Providence Medford Medical Center Laboratory

As of October 3, 2016, Providence Medford Medical Laboratory offers a molecular probe method, the BD Affirm™ VPIII Test, for diagnosis of vaginitis.

Vaginitis accounts for more than 10 million office visits each year. The most common cause of vaginitis is bacterial vaginosis (BV), caused by a change in the microbiome of the vagina with proliferation of Gardnerella vaginalis and decrease of Lactobacilli. The second most common form of vaginitis is vaginal candidiasis, followed by trichomoniasis, a non-reportable sexually transmitted disease. The three diseases present with overlapping clinical symptoms.

In the BD Affirm™ VPIII test, pathogen-specific DNA probes hybridize with DNA of Candida spp., Gardnerella vaginalis and/or Trichomonas vaginalis that is present at clinically significant levels in the sample. Current diagnostic tests, scored Gram stain for Candidiasis and bacterial vaginosis, and the Trichomonas antigen test for Trichomoniasis, can still be ordered but are discouraged because the new test is more sensitive for Candida and Gardnerella vaginalis.

For this test, only one vaginal swab needs to be submitted to detect all three pathogens. It is very important that this swab is part of the BD Affirm™ VPIII Ambient Temperature Transport System (ATTS).

Test Name: VAGINAL PATHOGENS DNA
Test Code: 92481
Epic Code: LAB13043
Methodology: Qualitative nucleic acid probe hybridization test
Performed at: Providence Medford Medical Center Laboratory
Reported: Within 4-24 hours after receipt in the lab
Reference value: Candida spp. DNA Negative
Gardnerella vaginalis DNA Negative
Trichomonas vaginalis DNA Negative
Specimen: Vaginal fluid, collected with the swab included in the BD Affirm™ VPIII Ambient Temperature Transport System (ATTS)
Unacceptable: Swabs or transport media other than ATTS swab above (f. ex. red-topped BBL swab, Dacron swab, Copan E-swab, swab received frozen)
Transport: Ambient temperature or refrigerated
Stability: 72 hours
CPT codes: 87480, 87510, 87660
Limitations: Not recommended as stand-alone test for sexually transmitted infections

Questions? Dion Scott or Ashley Wellman at 541-732-6370.