NOTICE DATE: December 14, 2016

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 26, 2016

TEST RESUMED

Ganciclovir, Serum
Order Code: MMLR
Reference Laboratory: Mayo GANC

Please note that Mayo Medical Laboratories resumed Ganciclovir testing effective October 26, 2016.

NOTICE DATE: December 14, 2016

POTENTIAL NTM INFECTIONS CAUSED BY STÖCKERT 3T HEATER-COOLER DEVICE

In October 2016, the CDC issued a warning that Stöckert 3T heater-cooler device — used in roughly 60 percent of bypass procedures in the U.S. each year — could be spreading *Mycobacterium chimaera*, or nontuberculous mycobacterium (NTM) infections to patients undergoing heart surgery. The University of Michigan Health System (UMHS) has sent letters informing of the potential risk and clinical presentation of NTM infection to referring physicians and primary care providers of all patients who had procedures using heater-cooler devices from June 2011 through August 22, 2016 when these devices were in use at UMHS and has also sent letters to all patients who had procedures using heater-cooler devices from June 2011 through August 22, 2016 with information related to clinical symptoms of infection and recommendations for follow-up including a patient hotline. Note that the CDC estimates the risk to be less than 1 percent.

Clinicians should maintain a high index of suspicion for NTM infection in adult and pediatric patients who have undergone cardiopulmonary bypass (especially within Cardiac Surgery, General Thoracic Surgery or Vascular Surgery) over the past 5 years, particularly those who have received valves or other implanted devices. For patients who present with persistent fever of unclear etiology after cardiac surgery, AFB blood cultures and imaging to evaluate for disseminated infection should be considered.

AFB blood cultures (order code AFBBL) are available from MLabs. Submit 10 mL (minimum 3 mL) of blood in an Isolator tube. After collecting specimen, mix tube contents well to lyse blood cells and prevent clotting. Do not refrigerate or incubate.

Preliminary results are reported in 24 hours. The health care provider will be notified of positive cultures. Negative cultures are reported after 6 weeks. If positive, the specimen will be sent to National Jewish Health for speciation and drug susceptibility testing.

Providers with a clinical question pertaining to a specific patient, or with a symptomatic patient who requires additional evaluation for potential NTM infection may call M-LINE at 800-962-3555 to speak to a designated provider who can answer heater-cooler related questions.

Patients may call the UMHS hotline directly at 855-336-5900. Representatives are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

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