



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Effective Date: 05/22/2017

New Nucleic Acid Amplification Test for Groups A and C/G *Streptococcus* Pharyngitis – (Strep Throat PCR)

Northwell Health Laboratories now offers a new nucleic acid amplification test (Lyra[®] Direct Strep Assay) that can detect β -hemolytic Group A *Streptococcus* (*S. pyogenes*), as well as Groups C and G, in throat swab samples. This new assay will replace our current nucleic acid amplification assay (Illumigene[®] Group A Strep Assay), which can only detect Group A *Streptococcus*.

The new assay uses polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and has a sensitivity and specificity of 96% and 98%, respectively, for the detection of Group A and Group C/G streptococcus in patients with pharyngitis.

Groups C and G streptococcus have many of the same virulence factors as Group A *Streptococcus*, and have been associated with similar illnesses and invasive diseases, with the notable exceptions of rheumatic fever and glomerulonephritis.

Specimen collection procedure and sample containers (Liquid Amies and Liquid Stuart Plastic Applicators) remain the same. Specimens collected with ESwab[™] will also be acceptable.

Test Order: [**STREPPCR \(PDM-1763099\)**](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at (516) 719-1100.