

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

☐ NEW TEST ☒ TEST CHANGE

NOTIFICATION DATE: 07/31/2025

EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/06/2025

Norovirus RT-PCR (NORWALK)

On the effective date, Northwell Health Laboratories will discontinue reporting of the Norovirus (Groups I/II) target from the GI PCR Panel due to a documented increase in false-positive results. The laboratory will offer molecular testing for Norovirus (Groups I/II) as a stand-alone assay. As a result, there will be changes to the specimen collection and stability as summarized below:

Test Requirements/Parameters	New Norovirus RT-PCR	Current GI PCR Panel Stool
Instrument	GeneXpert	BioFire Torch
Methodology	PCR	PCR
Specimen Collection Container	Sterile Container	Cary Blair Transport Media
Specimen Types	Unpreserved Stool	Stool
Specimen Volume /Minimum Volume	2–5 grams of stool	Amount needed to reach fill line on transport media
Specimen Storage	Up to 2 days at 2-8°C	Up to 4 days at 2-8°C or Room Temperature
Specimen Transport	Room Temperature	Room Temperature
Reference Range	Not Detected	Not Detected
Computer Interface Code	PDM# 5900095	PDM# 2162433
Test Order Cerner	NORWALK	GI PCR
Test Order SCM	Norovirus RT-PCR	GI PCR Panel Stool
Test Order EPIC	Norovirus (Groups 1 and 2) Molecular Detection	Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel Molecular Detection

If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at (800) 472-5757