



**National Jewish
Health**

**Advanced Diagnostic
Laboratories**

Dear Valued Client:

Effective 12/19/2022, the Mycobacteriology Laboratory is pleased to announce a newly developed molecular assay for identification of common mycobacteria.

The [AFB Primary Panel](#) is a multiplex PCR followed by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry (PCR/MALDI-TOF MS) to detect and differentiate nine mycobacterial targets and three markers of drug resistance:

- *Mycobacterium abscessus* subsp. *abscessus*, *M. abscessus* subsp. *bolletii*, *M. abscessus* subsp. *massiliense*, *M. avium*, *M. intracellulare* subsp. *chimera*, other *M. avium* complex, *M. chelonae*, *M. kansasii*, and *M. tuberculosis* complex.
- *erm(41)*, *rhl*, and *rrs*

This test will automatically be implemented in our [routine testing algorithms](#), and no further action is needed.

We are excited to offer this new and improved test with a price decrease and it will be used in place of the line probe assay whenever possible. However, billing codes will be updated to reflect the new platform:

- For identification of first, second or third organisms: MASID, MASI2, MASI3
- For drug resistance markers for first, second, or third organism: MASDR, MASD2, MASD3

Contact our Client Service Team at 800.550.6227 or email ClinRefLabs@njhealth.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Groshong".

Steve Groshong, MD, PhD
Medical Director, Advanced Diagnostic Laboratories
National Jewish Health