



Advanced Diagnostic
Laboratories

Dear Valued Client;

Effective Friday January 14, 2022, the Mycobacteriology Laboratory will no longer **routinely** perform rifampin/ethambutol and ethambutol MIC testing for slow growing mycobacteria (SGM).

This change is due to manufacturer supply shortages, poor correlation of *in vitro* ethambutol MIC results with clinical outcomes (e.g., for *M. avium* complex), and low utilization of the test data. Note that the cost of **routine** SGM testing will be reduced to reflect the change (Order code: Appro; Billing code: NTM15). **Individual** requests for ethambutol and rifampin/ethambutol combination testing will still be accepted and performed when supply levels resume (Order code: NTM3; Billing code: NTM9). To request these susceptibility results, select "customized phenotypic susceptibilities" on the requisition and circle the antibiotic of interest.

Please contact our Client Service Team at 800.550.6227 or email clinreflabs@njhealth.org with questions or for instructions on add-on testing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Reeti Khare".

Reeti Khare, PhD, D(ABMM)
Director, Mycobacteriology and Respiratory Infections Laboratory
Advanced Diagnostics Laboratories, National Jewish Health

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