

# Cepheid GeneXpert Xpress Strep A



## New Test Announcement

Effective **Wednesday, July 7th, 2021**, St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory is switching methodologies for the detection of *Streptococcus pyogenes* (Strep A) from rapid antigen to automated real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

We will be utilizing the **GeneXpert Xpress Strep A Kit** on our existing Cepheid GeneXpert Platform.

Due to the improved sensitivity and specificity of PCR methodology, reflexive cultures will no longer be performed. Instead, it is recommended to culture if symptoms are still present one week after a *Not Detected* PCR result. **Culture Order Name:** Culture Nose/Throat. Note: A new throat specimen collected in Modified Stuart's Media is required for culture.

The Xpert Xpress Strep A test is validated for use only with throat swab specimens collected with the **Eswab collection and transport system**.

The test takes approximately 23 minutes to run on the instrument.

**Test Name:** RAPIDSTREP – Strep A Screen

Result	Interpretation
Strep A NOT DETECTED	Strep A target DNA is not detected. This does <b>not</b> need to be followed up by culture.  It is recommended that a new specimen be collected and a culture performed if symptoms are still present after one week.
Strep A DETECTED	Strep A target DNA is detected.

If you have questions, please contact Jon Steinhauer, M.D., Microbiology Laboratory Medical Director, (218)-249-5208, Laboratory Operations Managers, Paige Andersen (218) 249-2468, or Sabrina Fuchs (218) 249-5339, or the Microbiology Laboratory, 218-249-5319.

See St. Luke's Laboratory Services Web page containing New Test Announcements:

<http://www.slhduluth.com/hospital/laboratory-services/>