





Memorandum - Microbiology #245

To: UNC Health Attending Physicians, Faculty Practice Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

From:  Kevin Alby, PhD, Associate Director, Clinical Microbiology Laboratory
 Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD, Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

Date: April 18, 2025

Subject: New Screening Culture for Fluoroquinolone Resistant Enterobacterales

Effective April 15th, 2025, the UNC Medical Center Clinical Microbiology Laboratory will offer a culture to screen for the presence of fluoroquinolone resistant Enterobacterales (Fluoroquinolone Resistance Culture Screen EPIC: LAB50361). This test will be performed on rectal or peri-rectal swabs collected using the standard Eswab (Lawson #s 054897 and 143675 both acceptable). Samples negative for detection of fluoroquinolone resistant Enterobacterales will result as "Not Detected". Samples with fluoroquinolone resistant Enterobacterales will have the organism(s) identified and standard antimicrobial susceptible testing performed and reported. The test will be performed daily with a turnaround time of 3-5 days depending on if resistant organisms are detected. This test is best used to help determine a patient's colonization status for prophylactic antimicrobials but is NOT for routine epidemiologic surveillance.

Questions can be directed to the Microbiology Lab 984-974-1805 or Dr. Kevin Alby at kevin.alby@unchealth.unc.edu