Danbury Hospital
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Technically Speaking

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ANTIBIOTIC SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING UPDATE

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The Clinical Microbiology section of the Laboratory will implement some changes in antimicrobial testing and reporting beginning in early November. In response to the National Committee on Clinical Laboratory Standards (NCCLS) recommendations and manufacturer upgrades, three new antibiotic panels will replace those currently in use.

The *gram positive panel* will include the additions of gatifloxacin, linezolid, synercid, ampicillin/sulbactam and ceftriaxone. Eliminated from the current panel will be cefepime, cefotaxime, imipenem and piperacillin/tazobactam.

The *gram negative systemic panel* will include the additions of moxifloxacin, cefotaxime, cefotetan, levofloxacin and meropenem. Eliminated from the current panel will be cefoxitin and cephalothin.

The *gram negative urinary panel* will include the additions of ampicillin/sulbactam, cefazolin, cephalothin, ceftriaxone, gatifloxacin, tetracycline and trimethoprim. Eliminated from the current panel will be meropenem and norfloxacin.

Please note that, although the newer panels consist of 24-27 antibiotics, many of these agents will not be routinely reported due to NCCLS guidelines. Some are contraindicated due to body site, or to a specific organism/antibiotic combination. For example, nitrofurantoin is an agent restricted for use in uncomplicated urinary tract infections; cephalosporins will not be reported for isolates of MRSA (methicillin resistant Staph aureus); trimethoprim/sulfa is not reported for enterococci.

In addition to these panel changes, we are also currently evaluating a panel to confirm extended spectrum beta lactamases (ESBLs) and a panel for pneumococci and non-enterococcal strep. We anticipate having these available by January 2003.

Any questions or comments concerning these changes may be directed to Dr. Jack Wolk, ext. 7551, Medical Director, Microbiology; Dr. Gary Schleiter ext. 7413, Chief of Infectious Disease; or Laura Ross, Technical Specialist of Microbiology ext. 7305.

WE'VE MOVED!!!!!

THE DANBURY HOSPITAL LABORATORY

NEWTOWN

SPECIMEN COLLECTION FACILITY

HAS MOVED TO

105 DANBURY-NEWTOWN ROAD

DANBURY, CT O6810

And is now called a Patient Service Center

HOURS OF OPERATION : MON-FRI 7:30AM – 1PM

TELEPHONE: (203) 730-0016 FAX: (203)739-0093

Specimen Collection Facility Updates

Brookfield: 60 Old New Milford Rd. Zip:06804
Tel: 203-740-3838 Fax: 203-740-3840 M-F 8AM-5PM Sat: 9AM-1PM

Danbury (Germantown): 41 Germantown Rd Zip: 06810
Tel: 203-207-3345 Fax: 203-207-3346 M-F 8AM-4PM

Test Center at Danbury Hospital: Locust Ave. Zip: 06810
Tel: 203-797-7478 Fax: 203-731-8069 M-F 7AM-6PM Sat: 7AM-12PM

Danbury (formerly Newtown): 105 Danbury-Newtown Rd. Zip: 06810
Tel: 203-739-0016 Fax: 203-739-0093 M-F 7:30AM-1PM

Ridgefield: 10 South St. Zip: 06877
Tel: 203-431-3776 Fax: 203-431-4071 M-F 7:30 AM-1PM

Southbury: 22 Old Waterbury Rd . Zip: 06488
Tel: 203-262-4280 Fax: 203-267-1113 M-F 7:30AM-1PM (Hours Under Evaluation)
Bone Density testing by appointment

Danbury Hospital Nuclear Medicine Bone Density Testing @ (DDI): 20 Germantown Rd. Zip: 06810 Appt. Scheduling: Tel: 203-797-7222 Fax: 739-6473