

**Hello Providers,**

**We are excited to share with you that Reliance MedLabs now offers an in-house PCR UTI test solution!**

**UTI Molecular Diagnostic Screening with Antibiotic Resistance:**

- We only need a 1ml sample
- Can be completed with accurate results within hours and we typically report within 24 hours from the time we receive the sample.
- UTI pathogens are detected with greater accuracy (pathogen DNA is identified to show the presence of the exact pathogen)
- Results are dependent on the DNA presence of pathogens as opposed to the volume of microbes in the sample.
- High specificity and sensitivity allow for the detection of co-infections with numerous pathogens, and even low microbial presence
- Reports antibiotic resistance to help physicians diagnose and treat patients accurately and efficiently.

**Why is a PCR test better than a urine culture?**

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) account for millions of physician office visits and hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations per year. Minor UTIs can often resolve on their own, but many UTIs can present issues when left untreated, resulting in further complications and even death.

With the evolution of multi-medication-resistant organisms, clinical diagnosis of UTIs has become more complex. Up to one-third of UTIs show resistance to antibiotics. As such, the development of advanced diagnostics is critical for accurate identification of the pathogens causing the infection in your patients.

Time is of the essence because an improper diagnosis or ineffective treatment plan for a UTI could cause

- Ongoing discomfort
- Chronic infections
- Permanent kidney damage
- Urethral narrowing in men
- Life-threatening sepsis

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When comparing a urine culture and PCR testing, there is little doubt that the PCR test offers a compelling set of benefits and advantages.

The urine culture has long been a valuable tool for diagnosing urinary tract infections. However, the PCR test offers several exciting benefits compared with a urine culture, including:

### **The PCR Testing Advantage**

#### **Detection**

- Detect more than 18 different types of pathogens and 9 Antibiotic-Resistant Genes and deliver results within 24-36 hours of lab sample receipt.

#### **Accuracy**

- Molecular pathogen testing is more accurate than standard culture testing. Our molecular pathogen testing detects anaerobic organisms growing deep inside those standard cultures often miss.

#### **Amplification**

- Using a molecular approach, amplification of testing sample genetic material is faster than standard culture growth and delivers increased sensitivity and a quicker result.

#### **Speed**

- Our rapid turnaround time is within 24-36 hours from laboratory receipt.

#### **Simplicity**

- Our simple-to-read report gives clinicians quick, actionable intelligence to make better treatment decisions.

#### **Identification**

- Ability to identify pathogens when the patient is on empiric antibiotic treatment.

With molecular testing, not only can you receive a clear picture of the type and percent of pathogens causing the infection, but in many cases, you can identify antimicrobial resistance. With the power of molecular testing, you can select the optimal medication therapy for your patient, improve treatment outcomes and reduce healthcare spending.

**We are here to provide you faster, accurate laboratory testing.**