



TOPA Update: July 2016

Molecular Panels for Vaginosis/Vaginitis

TOPA is pleased to announce the availability of three new multiplex PCR panels for the evaluation of patients with vaginosis/vaginitis.

| Panel | Target Organisms |
|------------------------------|--|
| Bacterial Vaginosis Panel | Gardnerella vaginalis Atopobium vaginae Megasphaera-1 BVAB-2 |
| Candida Panel | C. albicans C. glabrata C. krusei |
| Mycoplasma/ Ureaplasma Panel | Mycoplasma hominis Mycoplasma genitalium Ureaplasma urealyticum Ureaplasma parvum |

Acceptable sources include vaginal and cervical swabs samples, submitted in UTM (universal transport medium), ThinPrep solution (Preservcyt), or SurePath solution.

Bacterial Vaginosis (BV):

- BV is a clinical syndrome associated with an alteration in the vaginal flora, and is typically associated with characteristic clinical findings.
- Molecular characterization of the vaginal flora may support a diagnosis of bacterial vaginosis and help to distinguish this diagnosis from other causes of vaginal discharge.
- Interpretive guidelines:
 - 2 or more organisms detected: Positive (supportive of bacterial vaginosis).
 - 1 organism detected: Equivocal for bacterial vaginosis.
 - No organisms detected: Negative for bacterial vaginosis.

Candida:

- In cases of vulvovaginal Candidiasis, identification of the Candida species may be indicated in patients with complicated disease, defined as recurrent or severe disease, or presence of an underlying comorbidity such as diabetes, debilitation, or immunosuppression.
- Identification of non-albicans species may have clinical significance, due to differences in antimicrobial susceptibility.

Mycoplasma and Ureaplasma

- Mycoplasma and Ureaplasma species have been associated with female genital tract infection, but may also be found in asymptomatic women.
- These organisms have been associated with cervicitis, endometritis, salpingitis, bacterial vaginosis, and pre-term birth.

For information on Molecular Testing options, call TOPA Diagnostics and ask for Client Service or Edward Blackman MD (805-373-8582).