

ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: October 23, 2011

Dear Valued Clients:

Foundation Laboratory is pleased to announce that effective October 24, 2011, an FDA approved, highly sensitive and specific DNA- based molecular typing assay for detection of *Trichomonas vaginalis* will be performed in-house.

This test can be used to screen **asymptomatic** women (up to 50% of all infections show no symptoms). In addition, the APTIMA *Trichomonas vaginalis* assay may be run on the fully automated TIGRIS system and utilize the same female/male specimen collection device as those used for GC/CT assay (swab, urine, or liquid pap). Research shows that *Trichomonas* infections are more prevalent than Chlamydia and Gonorrhea and can increase the risk of HIV transmission and acquisition. Other complications of *Trichomonas vaginalis* infection in women include: preterm delivery, low birth weight, and increased infant mortality as well as predisposition to cervical cancer.

Trichomonas vaginalis is an anaerobic, flagellated protozoan. The parasitic microorganism is the causative agent of trichomoniasis and the most common pathogenic protozoan infection of humans in industrialized countries. Infection rates between men and women are the same, with women showing symptoms while infections in men are usually asymptomatic. Transmission takes place directly because the trophozoite does not have a cyst. The estimate for North America alone is between 5 and 8 million new infections each year with estimated rates of asymptomatic cases as high as 50%.

Trichomonas vaginalis, a common parasitic sexually transmitted disease can lead to serious health consequences in the genital tract if left untreated. The new assay utilizes the same nucleic acid amplification technology (TMA) used for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea which provides greater sensitivity than wet mount and direct probe methods for *Trichomonas vaginalis*.

Specimen Requirements: (one of these three)

- GenProbe Aptima Collection Swab - Endocervical / Urethral
- PreservCyt Solution
- Urine

Turn Around Time:

- 72 Hours

For supplies and other needs, please contact your Foundation Laboratory representative.

Sincerely,

Reza M. Massoumi, Ph.D.
Laboratory Manager