

GROUP B STREP RAPID DNA PCR
8127

QUICK REFERENCE

Effective Tuesday, August 3, 2021, the “rapid” PCR test for Group B Strep (GBS) will be discontinued at Allina Health.

DETAILS

Due to changes in the ACOG guidelines for laboring patients with unknown GBS status, effective Tuesday, August 3, 2021, the rapid PCR test for Group B Strep, Group B Strep Rapid DNA PCR (8127/LAB8127) will be discontinued. Please note that the rapid GBS assay is not the same as the prenatal Group B Strep PCR screen. The rapid GBS test is performed directly from a vaginal/rectal swab but sensitivity as low as 62% has been reported whereas the Vaginal/rectal OB Strep PCR (14203/LAB14203) is performed on a culture broth after overnight incubation with high sensitivity (>92%).

Due to the poor sensitivity of the Group B Strep Rapid DNA PCR assay, the [2019 ACOG guidelines](#) no longer recommend rapid testing for laboring patients with unknown GBS status. Instead, the guidelines recommend intrapartum antibiotics based on risk-factors:

- Intrapartum fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$)
- Delivery before 37+0 weeks of gestation
- Rupture of membranes ≥ 18 hours
- Previous delivery of an infant affected by GBS disease
- GBS bacteriuria in the current pregnancy

QUESTIONS: Contact your Allina Health Laboratory account representative, or our Client Services department