

# Laboratory News

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## New Blood Culture Identification and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Coming

Thomas Novicki, Ph.D. Clinical Scientist, Microbiology Section

Beginning this May, Marshfield Labs will start a phased introduction of an exciting new technology, the FilmArray® BCID2 panel, into the labs of all Marshfield Clinic Health System medical centers in Wisconsin.

### Inside this Issue

<b>BCID2 Panel</b> .....	1
Contact Information.....	2

### FilmArray® BCID2 Panel

The BCID2 panel is performed on blood cultures that have signaled positive for growth to rapidly identify many bacteria and yeasts associated with bacteremia and sepsis. In addition, several important antimicrobial resistance factors such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE), and extended spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL) & carbapenemase (CRE) enzymes in Gram negative *Enterobacterales* can be detected.

While current identification and antimicrobial susceptibility test (AST) methods take 8-48 hours, the BCID2 panel can be performed in as little as two hours. Importantly, the BCID2 panel, like conventional ID and AST methods require a positive blood culture to start with; it cannot be run directly on freshly drawn blood. The BCID2 panel will be automatically performed on all positive blood cultures. Nothing additional needs to be ordered by the clinician.

Studies have shown that the use of a rapid blood culture panels such as the BCID2 lead to reduced mortality and better antimicrobial stewardship. Further, these gains are best achieved through the use of an active antimicrobial stewardship program. The lab has thus partnered with the MCHS antimicrobial stewardship committee to rapidly act when a BCID2 result is reported.

For therapeutic consultations please contact the infectious diseases consult service.

For all other BCID2-related questions contact:

Dr. Thomas Novicki, section head of microbiology; 800-222-5835, extension 16132

## References

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