

# **SAINT FRANCIS HEALTH SYSTEM LABORATORY UPDATE**

DATE: October 6, 2009

TO: Medical Staff

FROM: Ashley Gable, M.D., Microbiology Medical Director  
Sara Hobbie, MT(ASCP)SM, Laboratory Technical Services Manager

SUBJECT: Enterovirus PCR Testing

Effective October 6, 2009, Saint Francis Hospital Microbiology Department will begin performing Enterovirus PCR in-house on CSF samples using the Cepheid GeneXpert. This test, in conjunction with other laboratory results and clinical information, may be used as an aid in the laboratory diagnosis of enterovirus infection in patients with a clinical suspicion of meningitis or meningoencephalitis.

A minimum of 0.5 ml of CSF is required. Standard collection and handling for CSF is recommended. Results are available within four hours.

Questions may be directed to Sara Hobbie at 494-1300.