



MOLECULAR TESTING FOR POSITIVE BLOOD CULTURES Continuous Improvement for Rapid Resulting

Fourth Quarter 2017

PCL Alverno is pleased to announce the addition of Molecular Testing to augment our positive blood culture algorithm. In September 2014, PCL Alverno began using MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry technology for rapid identification of organisms from positive blood culture media.

Soon, Molecular PCR testing will be added to detect MRSA in specimens identified as *Staphylococcus aureus* by MALDI-TOF. In addition, PCR will be used for rapid detection of VRE *Enterococcus* species and CRE *Klebsiella pneumoniae*.

PCL Alverno will also use PCR technology to assist with positive blood culture organism identification when the MALDI-TOF is unable to provide a reportable result. This addition of rapid resistance marker detection is another step to providing the best patient care available through reduced TAT of critical results.