



# TECHNICAL NOTICE

## SOUTH BEND MEDICAL FOUNDATION

June 2009

---

### ***Streptococcus, Group B, Antigen Screen Discontinued by Manufacturer***

---

Effective immediately, South Bend Medical Foundation is discontinuing test #21028, “*Streptococcus, Group B, Antigen Screen, Gynecological, with PCR if Negative.*” The manufacturer of the Group B antigen screen kit has discontinued production.

According to the current 2002 CDC guidelines for the prevention of perinatal Group B Streptococcal (GBS) disease, universal prenatal screening for vaginal and rectal group B strep colonization is advised for all pregnant women. SBMF is recommending use of test #21241, “**Streptococcus, Group B, by PCR, Gynecological.**” This test utilizes polymerase chain reaction with culture enhancement (PCR-CE). Sensitive and rapid when compared to conventional culture, PCR-CE has been proven to detect 20-30% more Group B *Streptococcus* colonization with a shortened report time.

South Bend Medical Foundation also offers PCR-CE testing for GBS with antimicrobial sensitivity if the culture results are positive. This is test #21242, “*Streptococcus, Group B, by PCR, Gynecological, with MIC if Positive.*”

Please direct comments regarding this notice to C. Kurtis Kim, M.D., Mary G. Stepney, Microbiology Specialist, or Nan Boston, Microbiology Manager, South Bend Medical Foundation, (574) 234-4176 or (800) 544-0925.

**SOUTH BEND MEDICAL FOUNDATION**

530 N. Lafayette Boulevard • South Bend, IN 46601 • (574) 234-4176

Elkhart (574) 293-8441 • (800) 544-0925

Robert J. Tomec, M.D. • *Medical Director*