#### COMPLIMENTARY GLOBAL WEBINAR

## Group A Strep Pharyngitis: Expert Perspectives on Rapid Testing and Antimicrobial Stewardship



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#### **Group A Strep Pharyngitis: Expert Perspectives on Rapid Testing and Antimicrobial Stewardship**

Live Event: Thursday, September 15, 2022 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Eastern Time P.A.C.E.® credit available until September 15, 2023 Florida Laboratory CE Credit available

Join this panel discussion on Group A Strep (GAS) pharyngitis. Hear the latest updates on key topics, including clinical testing guidelines, perspectives on test methodologies, and practical testing protocols. Recommendations aimed at improving quality of care, workflow efficiencies, and antibiotic stewardship will be shared.

#### The webinar will:

- Discuss the latest diagnostic guidelines for GAS pharyngitis
- Assess clinical challenges of GAS pharyngitis diagnosis and antimicrobial stewardship
- Review rapid test methods (antigen and molecular tests) and practical utility
- Examine evidence when results are received in time for clinical decision making and prompt patient care



RECORDING

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#### **MODERATOR**

Philip Ginsburg, MD

Medical Director Infectious Diseases Rapid Diagnostics, Abbott





### **DR. SHULMAN:**

- Speaker honorarium, Abbott
- CDC grant support for group A strep pharyngitis studies

### DR. TANZ

- Speaker honorarium, Abbott
- CDC grant support for group A strep pharyngitis studies

### **DR. COHEN**

• French Ministry of Health grant support for group A strep pharyngitis studies

## Today's Panel Discussion

- Diagnostic Guidelines
- Patient Selection
- Test performance
- Antibiotic Stewardship

## Learning Objectives

- Discuss the latest U.S. and European diagnostic guidelines for GAS pharyngitis
- Assess clinical challenges of GAS pharyngitis diagnosis and antimicrobial stewardship
- Review rapid test methods (antigen and molecular tests) and practical utility
- Examine evidence when results are received in time for clinical decision making

# GROUP A STREP PHARYNGITIS Diagnostic Guidelines

### Group A Strep (GAS) Pharyngitis

#### **"STREP THROAT" - TYPICALLY PRESENTS CLINICALLY AS:**

 Fever, headache, red swollen tonsils +/- uvula, with or without exudates, tender/swollen anterior cervical nodes <sup>1</sup>

**#1** bacterial cause of tonsillopharyngitis in children (3-15 years) and adults<sup>2</sup>

Peak season - Winter and early Spring<sup>1</sup> with lower frequency during pandemic, due to masking, etc.

#### **TYPICALLY SELF-LIMITING...SO WHY DO WE TEST AND TREAT?**

### GAS DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT ARE PRIMARILY PREVENTATIVE<sup>1,2</sup>

- Acute rheumatic fever (ARF) (arthritis, **CARDITIS**, chorea)
- Peritonsillar / retropharyngeal abscess
- Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome
- Necrotizing fasciitis
- Invasive GAS infection (Sepsis, pneumonia, countless others)
- Post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis preventable?
- Spread of GAS to others (e.g., household, classroom)
- 1. CDC. Group A Streptococcal (GAS) Disease. https://www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-hcp/strepthroat.html, updated Jun 27, 2022.
- 2. Red Book, 2021-2024. Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. GAS Infections. https://publications.aap.org/redbook/book/347/Red-Book-2021-2024-Report-of-the-Committee-on



### Guidelines: American Academy of Pediatrics/Redbook

- DO NOT DIAGNOSE STREP THROAT WITHOUT LAB TEST CONFIRMATION
- DO NOT TEST...
  - Children < 3 years old, unless known GAS contact
  - Those with viral signs/symptoms: cough, rhinorrhea, hoarseness, oral ulcers, diarrhea
  - Patients without bona fide clinical suspicion of GAS, i.e., Centor or McIsaac Score < 2
    - Tonsillar exudate and/or swelling, fever, tender anterior cervical nodes, absence of cough, age 3 – 15 years
- DO NOT TREAT WITH ANTIBIOTIC WITHOUT TEST CONFIRMATION OF GAS PHARYNGITIS INFECTION

## **Testing Methods for GAS Pharyngitis**

### **CURRENT DIAGNOSTIC GUIDELINES AND CLINICAL PERSPECTIVES**

### CULTURE

18-36 hours<sup>1</sup>

Not practical

"Gold standard"



**Children** = use confirmatory test, traditionally culture/now NAAT possible

Adults = no confirmatory test recommended (very low risk of ARF or other GAS complications)

NAAT, nucleic acid amplification test

1. Red Book, 2021-2024. Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. Group A Streptococcal Infections. https://publications.aap.org/redbook/347/Red-Book-2021-2024-Report-of-the-Committee-on

2. Jaggi P, Leber A. Molecular Testing for GAS Pharyngitis: To Test or Not To Test, That Is the Question, *Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society*, Volume 10, Issue 2, February 2021, Pages 65–67.

3. Xpert<sup>®</sup> Xpress Strep A Package Insert, 301-9326 Rev A.

### NAATS (NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION TESTS)

Potentially even more rapid than RADTs  $(2 - 24 \text{ mins})^{2,3}$ 

Very high specificity<sup>1</sup> (~93 - 97%)

Very high sensitivity<sup>1</sup> (~96 - 99%)

Confirmatory test likely not necessary (unless indicated in test labeling)

More costly than other tests

Too complicated for some POC?

"Some studies suggest that in addition to providing more timely results, [rapid molecular] tests may be more sensitive than standard throat swab cultures..."<sup>1</sup>

## Group A Strep Pharyngitis Guideline Updates 2012 2018

### Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) and the AAP

Diagnostic studies are not indicated in children <3 years old or those with viral type symptoms <sup>1</sup> (as previously discussed, SELECTIVE SCREENING)

## Recurrent strep pharyngitis infection does not automatically indicate need for T&A

### Limited mention of molecular assays

2018 IDSA and American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Joint Update on Lab Guidelines state: <sup>2</sup>

"Rapid, CLIA–waived methods for molecular group A Streptococcus testing provide improved sensitivity and may not require culture confirmation, though they have not yet been incorporated into consensus guidelines."

T&A, tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy; CLIA, clinical laboratory improvement amendments

<sup>1.</sup> Shulman ST, et al. Clinical Practice Guideline for the Diagnosis and Management of Group A Streptococcal Pharyngitis: 2012 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Clinical Infectious Diseases 2012;55(10):e86–102.

<sup>2.</sup> Miller JA, et al. A Guide to Utilization of the Microbiology Laboratory for Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases: 2018 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the American Society for Microbiology. Clin Infect Dis. 2018 Aug 31;67(6):e1-e94.

## Change at a Glacial Pace

### 2022

## Increasing evidence regarding rapid molecular tests may contribute to guideline update:

<ul> <li>Weinzierl EP, Comparison o rapid antigen [published on</li> </ul>	Banerjee D, Selvarangan R. The Evolution of Group A Streptococcus Pharyngitis Testing, Sep 2018. https://www.aacc.org/cln/articles/2018/september/the-evolution-of- group-a-streptococcus-pharyngitis-testing			
Banerji     Strepto     Utility,     for Dru	Bird C, e test to d of reduci online at	Bilir SP, et al. US cost-effectiveness and budget impact of poin NAAT for streptococcus. Am J Manag Care. 2021 May 1;27(5):	it-of-care e157-e163.	
• ( • Newca i Diagno	Ferrieri F • PCR assa culture.	Tanz RR, et al. Highly Sensitive Molecular Assay for Group A St Over-identifies Carriers and May Impact Outpatient Antimicro Stewardship. Pediatr Infect Dis J. 2019 Aug;38(8):769-774.	reptococci bial	
Elf S, e     Invasio     Oct;22	Lathia N, • Cost-mir testing fo 2018;15:	Rao A, et al. Diagnosis and antibiotic treatment of group a stre pharyngitis in children in a primary care setting: impact of poir polymerase chain reaction. BMC Pediatr. 2019;19(1):24. Publis Jan 16. doi:10.1186/s12887-019-1393-y	ptococcal nt-of-care shed 2019	
<ul> <li>National for Group Final Scop dg10025/</li> </ul>	A Streptocc be. Leeds: NI documents/	Berry GJ, et al. Comparison of the Alere i [ID NOW] Strep A Tes BD Veritor System in the detection of group A Streptococcus a hypothetical impact of results on antibiotic utilization. J Clin M 2018;56:e01310–17.	st and the and the licrobiol	

### IDSA reconstituted committee to update GAS pharyngitis guidelines likely including molecular testing

### **European Guidelines for GAS Pharyngitis**

Diagnosis and Treatment	Belgium <sup>44</sup> BE01	The Netherlands <sup>45</sup> NL02	France <sup>46</sup> FR03	Finland <sup>47</sup> FI04	England <sup>48</sup> E05	Scotland <sup>49</sup> SC06
Diagnosis						
History	+	+	+	+	+	+
Clinical examination	+	+	+	+	+	+
Centor criteria	_	_	_	_	_	_
GABHS (rapid antigen or strep) test	_	_	+	+	_	_
Culture	—	_	_	+	_	_
Treatment						
Prescribe antibiotics						
High-risk and very ill patients	+	+	+	_	+	+
Centor criteria	—	_	_	_	_	_
GABHS test result positive	_	_	+	+	_	_

### **IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES:**

Several countries (UK, Belgium, Netherlands) do not follow "test and treat".

Matthys J, De Meyere M, van Driel ML, De Sutter A. Differences among international pharyngitis guidelines: not just academic. Ann Fam Med. 2007 Sep-Oct;5(5):436-43.

## UK Guidelines for GAS Pharyngitis (2018)



**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

#### **FeverPAIN CRITERIA:**

- Fever (during previous 24 hours)
- Purulence (pus on tonsils)
- Attend rapidly (≤3 days after symptoms onset)
- Severely inflamed tonsils
- No cough or coryza

"Based on evidence and experience, the committee agreed that acute sore throat is a self-limiting infection, and most people will get better within a week without antibiotic treatment."

"The additional use of rapid antigen tests for GABHS in people with a high FeverPAIN score had no clear advantage over using FeverPAIN score alone."

NICE. NICE guideline [NG84]. Sore throat (acute): antimicrobial prescribing. https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng84, January 2018.

## **Diagnosis of GAS Pharyngitis in France**

### **CURRENT GUIDELINES**

- Perform RADT on all 3 15 y.o. with acute pharyngitis
- No scoring system is utilized in children
- Treat those who are positive, no backup culture is performed for those with negative RADT
- Based on great rarity of ARF, it is acknowledged that a small number of GAS pharyngitis will be missed
  - Assumes those missed are probable GAS carriers
- RADTs (Exacto Pro Streptatest, Biosynex) are provided free to all requesting French clinicians

- No guidelines regarding molecular assays
  - Cost exceeds free RADTs
  - French regulations require trained lab personnel to perform and validate molecular tests; hence, not feasible for clinicians at POC

GROUP A STREP PHARYNGITIS
Patient Selection for Testing

### Guide for Patient Selection for Testing in the U.S.

#### SORE PR THROAT SC

PRE-TEST PROBABILITY SCORING SYSTEMS<sup>1</sup>

	POINTS
Absence of cough	1
Swollen, tender anterior cervical nodes	1
Temperature > 100.4°F (38°C)	1
Tonsillar exudates or swelling	1
Age	
3 to 14 years	1
15 to 44 years	0
45 years or older	-1
CUMULATIVE SCORE:	

### CENTOR OR MODIFIED CENTOR (AKA MCISAAC)



≤ 2: unlikely to have GAS pharyngitis≥ 3: more probable to have positive GAS test

GABHS, group A beta-hemolytic streptococcal

<sup>1</sup>Adapted from Kalra MG, Higgins KE, Perez ED. Common Questions About Streptococcal Pharyngitis. Am Fam Physician. 2016 Jul 1;94(1):24-31. Erratum in: Am Fam Physician. 2017 Apr 1;95(7):414. <sup>2</sup> Adapted from Fine AM, Nizet V, Mandl KD. Large-Scale Validation of the Centor and McIsaac Scores to Predict Group A Streptococcal Pharyngitis. Arch Intern Med. 2012 June 11; 172(11): 847–852.



### Test Positivity Rates Increase with Higher Pre-Test Probability Scores

#### **POSITIVE TEST RESULTS BY MCISAAC SCORE**



Heaberlin LE, Rippe J, Harvey E, Katsogridakis Y, Burns B, Shulman ST, Tanz RR. The Illumigene Group A Streptococcus (GAS) Molecular Test is Extremely Sensitive: Does it Lack Clinical Spectrum Effect? Presented as a Poster, Pediatric Academic Societies' Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. April 27, 2019.



### Test Performance is Affected by Disease Presentation

### **TEST SENSITIVITY SPECTRUM BIAS**

#### 1848 patients

#### 3-18 years old

#### **MCISAAC CRITERIA**

Tonsillar exudates, anterior cervical adenitis, history of fever, no cough, age <15 years (score 1 point for each)

### PPV OF EACH SCORE FOR POSITIVE CULTURE



Higher McIsaac Scores are associated with greater pretest probability of GAS as the cause of the pharyngitis (positive throat culture)

SENSITIVITY	0-2	<b>3-5</b>
Office RADT	49%	78%
Office Throat Culture	65%	87%

PPV, positive predictive value; RADT, rapid antigen detection test

Tanz RR, Gerber MA, Kabat W, Rippe J, Seshadri R, Shulman ST. Performance of a rapid antigen-detection test and throat culture in community pediatric offices: implications for management of pharyngitis. Pediatrics. 2009 Feb;123(2):437-44. Erratum in: Pediatrics. 2009 Aug;124(2):846.

GROUP A STREP PHARYNGITIS

Panel Discussion: Diagnostic Guidelines and Patient Selection for Testing GROUP A STREP PHARYNGITIS

## **Test Performance**

## **Detection: Antigen vs Molecular**

#### **POSITIVE PATIENT** Sample Containing Antigen/RNA

### **ANTIGEN TESTS**

Rapid Antigen Detection Tests (RADTs)<sup>1</sup>

#### **NO AMPLIFICATION**

Detects the presence of available pathogens (virus or bacteria)



### **MOLECULAR TESTS**

Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs)<sup>2</sup>

#### AMPLIFICATION

Amplifies the sample millions of times for easier pathogen detection

GAS Antigen: Group A carbohydrate Cell wall component

Lower levels of pathogen are **less likely to be detected** 

Lower levels of pathogen are **more likely to be detected** 

GAS Gene: e.g.*, SpeB* Major toxin

#### SELECT TEST BASED ON HEALTHCARE NEEDS FOR RAPID RESULT AND TEST UTILITY

- 1. Cohen JF, et al. Rapid antigen detection test for group A streptococcus in children with pharyngitis. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2016, Issue 7.
- 2. CDC. Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs). https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/naats.html, updated June 14, 2021.

- Systematic review of literature
- 98 studies, > 100,000 children



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  - Specificity: 95.4% (94.5 96.2)
- No significant difference between EIA and OIA
- No difference across age groups
- No difference according to McIsaac score





## Molecular (NAAT) Test Technologies for GAS



NAAT, nucleic acid amplification test.

\*Multiple NAAT technologies amplify nucleic acids, not a comprehensive list.

CDC, Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs), updated June 14, 2021. List narrowed to technologies with associated rapid NAAT for GAS.

### Rapid molecular tests (NAATs) for Group A Strep

### LISTED IN ORDER OF EASE OF USE (CLIA STATUS, U.S. ONLY) AND TIME TO RESULT

CLIA WAIVED	DEVICE	AMPLIFICATION METHOD	TEST TECHNOLOGY	TIME TO POSITIVE RESULT (MIN)	TIME TO NEGATIVE RESULT (MIN)
YES	Abbott ID NOW™ <sup>1</sup>	Isothermal	NEAR	≥ 2	6
YES	Roche cobas <sup>®</sup> LIAT <sup>® 2</sup>	Thermocycle	PCR	~15	~15
YES	Cepheid GeneXpert® Xpress <sup>3</sup>	Thermocycle	PCR	≥ 18	24
NO	Quidel Solana <sup>® 4</sup>	Isothermal	HDA	~35	~35
NO	Diasorin Simplexa™ ⁵	Thermocycle	PCR	~60	~60
NO	Meridian Biosciences® Alethia™ <sup>6</sup> (formerly illumigene™)	Isothermal	LAMP	~60	~60

CLIA, Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (U.S.); NEAR, Nicking Enzyme Amplification Reaction; PCR, Polymerase Chain Reaction, HDA, Helicase Dependent Amplification; LAMP, Loopmediated Amplification. Commercially available rapid GAS NAATs (<60 mins); refer to FDA site for current list and CLIA status:

https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfClia/analyteswaived.cfm?start\_search=S. Check manufacturer sites for product availability.

1. ID NOW Strep A 2 Package Insert, IN734000 Rev.5. 2. cobas<sup>®</sup> Strep A Package Insert, 34-04030 Rev 4. 3. Xpert<sup>®</sup> Xpress Strep A Package Insert, 301-9326 Rev A. 4. Solana<sup>®</sup> GAS Assay, Instructions for Use, PIM301005EN00 (08/18). 5. Diasorin Simplexa<sup>™</sup> Group A Strep Direct, Instructions for Use, Rev C. 6. Alethia<sup>™</sup> Group A Strep DNA Amplification Assay, SN11022, REV. 05/20.

## Accuracy of NAATs (meta-analysis)

- Systematic review of literature
- 39 studies, > 16,000 patients



Dubois C, Smeesters PR, Refes Y, Levy C, Bidet P, Cohen R, Chalumeau M, Toubiana J, Cohen JF. Diagnostic accuracy of rapid nucleic acid tests for group A streptococcal pharyngitis: systematic review and meta-analysis. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2021 Dec;27(12):1736-1745.

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Dubois C, Smeesters PR, Refes Y, Levy C, Bidet P, Cohen R, Chalumeau M, Toubiana J, Cohen JF. Diagnostic accuracy of rapid nucleic acid tests for group A streptococcal pharyngitis: systematic review and meta-analysis. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2021 Dec;27(12):1736-1745.

## Accuracy of NAATs (meta-analysis)

- Systematic review of literature
- 39 studies, > 16,000 patients
- Random-effects bivariate meta-analysis:
  - Sensitivity: 97.5% (96.0-98.5)
  - Specificity: 95.8% (94.4-96.9)
- Direct comparison of NAATs vs RADTs (10 studies):
  - Higher sensitivity (97% vs. 80%, p=0.007)
  - Comparable specificity (97% vs. 98%, p=0.69)
- Limitations:
  - Risk of Bias: uncertain because of incomplete reporting
  - Applicability: major concern regarding patient selection
  - Most studies conducted in lab, not at POC





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Commentary

### Here to stay: rapid nucleic acid tests for group A streptococcus pharyngitis

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<sup>1)</sup> Division of Infectious Diseases, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA

<sup>2)</sup> Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

<sup>3)</sup> Division of Advanced General Pediatrics & Primary Care, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA

#### "RNATs are here to stay [in the U.S.].

They are being used now and they will be used more frequently as clinicians become comfortable with molecular testing for GAS and many other infectious diseases. Published data for the diagnostic accuracy of these tests is growing..." "...it is important that the appropriate clinical context and setting to perform these tests be considered and evaluated, especially in the POC setting where the majority of these tests are likely to be used." "As with other tests for GAS, clinicians should be mindful of clinical presentation and **limit testing only to those with GAScompatible pharyngitis**; in this way, positive tests are associated with greater likelihood of bona fide infection and less likely to identify carriers with an intercurrent non-GAS (most often viral) illness" and thus avoid unnecessary antibiotic treatment.

### Prevalence of Positive Tests – Culture vs. Rapid NAAT

~3,600 children with sore throat and **RADT negative** presenting to the **ED**:

CULTURE	TESTS	<b># POSITIVE</b>	% POSITIVE			
2012	884	62	7.0			
2013	997	96	9.6			
COMBINED*	1881	158	8.4*			
RAPID NAAT	TESTS	# POSITIVE	% POSITIVE			
2014	894	152	17.0			
2015	859	132	16.1			

### PREVALENCE OF POSITIVE TESTS

\*p<.00001

Is molecular more sensitive than culture, or overly sensitive?

Tanz RR, et al. Caution Needed: Molecular Diagnosis of Pediatric GAS Pharyngitis. J Pediatric Infect Dis Soc. 2018 Aug 17;7(3):e145-e147.

### The Potential Impact of Highly Sensitive NAATs

**~380** asymptomatic children ≥3 years old presenting in **Primary Care** (immunization/well-child care)

### **12.5%** culture positive

• Probably carriers harboring GAS in respiratory tract, consistent with known carrier rate (can be >20%)

**20.3% molecular positive** (*p* < 0.0035) The **8%** difference may represent:

- false positives or carriers
- molecular testing is better at detecting GAS in the pharynx than other forms of testing

	ENROLLED	CULTURE POSITIVE	MOLECULAR POSITIVE
NUMBER	385	48 (12.5%) <sup>*</sup>	78 (20.3%)**
MEAN AGE (YRS)	10	9.6	9.6
SEX			
MALE	195 (51%)	23 (48%)	39 (50%)
FEMALE	188 (48%)	25 (52%)	39 (50%)
<b>REASON FOR VISIT</b>			
WELL CHILD CARE	264 (69%)		
FOLLOW-UP	99 (26%)		
ADHD	17 (4%)		
OTHER	1 (<1%)		

\* 385 enrolled; 382 valid paired samples, 3 molecular tests were indeterminate. Missing data: sex (2), reason for visit (4)

\*\* Proportion culture-positive vs molecular-positive: **Chi square test, p = 0.0035** 

### **Identification of Carriers**

- **32/382** pairs (8.4%) were discordant
- **31/32** discordant pairs (97%) were NAAT-positive/culture-negative
  - McNemar test, *p*<.00001

### Workflow Comparison – Rapid Antigen vs. Rapid NAAT

#### STREP A RAPID ANTIGEN TEST (RADT) WITH CONFIRMATION OF NEGATIVE TEST



#### RAPID STREP A MOLECULAR TEST WITH NO CONFIRMATION OF NEGATIVE TESTS



Time estimates per 2 CLIA waived rapid molecular tests (ID NOW Strep A data on file (Abbott) and Xpert<sup>®</sup> Xpress Strep A Package Insert, 301-9326 Rev A).

# GROUP A STREP PHARYNGITIS Antibiotic Stewardship

### Rapid Testing and Impact on Antibiotic Use (Cochrane)

### **Different Questions**

- > Are rapid test results *valid*? Diagnostic accuracy see previous slides
- > Are rapid tests *useful*? Clinical utility

### 2020 Cochrane Review

- > 5 RCTs evaluating the impact of using RADTs on antibiotic use (2,545 children and adults)
- Various interventions:
  - > RADTs used in combination with a clinical scoring system: 3 trials
  - > Some physicians asked to use RADTs alone, while others asked to use RADTs with scoring system: 1 trial
  - > RADTs alone (for all): 1 trial

### **Conclusions with Use of Rapid Testing:**

Potential to reduce antibiotic prescription rates by **2**<sub>5</sub> percentage points (e.g., from 60% to 35%)

### Areas Most Prone to Inappropriate Antibiotic Use

#### AVG INAPPROPRIATE ANTIBIOTIC USE BY CARE SETTING<sup>1</sup>



**38%** patients prescribed antibiotics for pharyngitis tested negative for group A streptococcus<sup>2</sup>

1. Palms DL, et al. Comparison of Antibiotic Prescribing in Retail Clinics, Urgent Care Centers, Emergency Departments, and Traditional Ambulatory Care Settings in the U.S. JAMA Intern Med. 2018;178(9):1267–1269.

2. Havers FP, et al. Outpatient Antibiotic Prescribing for Acute Respiratory Infections During Influenza Seasons. JAMA Netw Open. 2018 Jun 1;1(2):e180243.

### Workflow Comparison – Rapid Antigen vs. Rapid NAAT

#### STREP A RAPID ANTIGEN TEST (RADT) WITH CONFIRMATION OF NEGATIVE TEST



#### RAPID STREP A MOLECULAR TEST WITH NO CONFIRMATION OF NEGATIVE TESTS



Time estimates per 2 CLIA waived rapid molecular tests (ID NOW Strep A data on file (Abbott) and Xpert<sup>®</sup> Xpress Strep A Package Insert, 301-9326 Rev A).

GROUP A STREP PHARYNGITIS Panel Discussion: Test Performance and Antibiotic Stewardship

### **Closing Remarks**

- Rapid GAS molecular testing is increasingly being utilized in the diagnostic workup of acute pharyngitis in the U.S.
- Patient selection should be based on clinical features that suggest bacterial (streptococcal) rather than viral infection to avoid antibiotic over treatment
- U.S. guidelines regarding diagnostic testing for GAS pharyngitis will be likely reassessed by the reconstituted IDSA guidelines committee
- Guidelines need to acknowledge the importance of antibiotic stewardship in the context of other factors - financial impact, timeliness of results, and test performance (sensitivity/specificity) for rapid antigen and molecular tests

## Thank you!





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#### **Group A Strep Pharyngitis: Expert Perspectives on Rapid Testing and Antimicrobial Stewardship**

Live Event: Thursday, September 15, 2022 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Eastern Time P.A.C.E.® credit available until September 15, 2023 Florida Laboratory CE Credit available

Join this panel discussion on Group A Strep (GAS) pharyngitis. Hear the latest updates on key topics, including clinical testing guidelines, perspectives on test methodologies, and practical testing protocols. Recommendations aimed at improving quality of care, workflow efficiencies, and antibiotic stewardship will be shared.

#### The webinar will:

- Discuss the latest diagnostic guidelines for GAS pharyngitis
- Assess clinical challenges of GAS pharyngitis diagnosis and antimicrobial stewardship
- Review rapid test methods (antigen and molecular tests) and practical utility
- Examine evidence when results are received in time for clinical decision making and prompt patient care



RECORDING

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For additional information, please contact your local Abbott representative

## Group A Strep Pharyngitis: Expert Perspectives on Rapid Testing and Antimicrobial Stewardship

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