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MEMORANDUM

To: Providers

From: St. Charles Laboratories

Subject: Appropriate Use of Vaginitis and STI Testing Panels

Date: October 2, 2025

St. Charles Health System (SCHS) Laboratory requests that the following guidance be followed regarding ordering of Vaginitis and STI testing panels:

- The ***Aptima Vaginitis Assay** (CPT 81513) is **not intended for STI screening**.
- These panels should only be ordered when the patient is **symptomatic** and when **medically necessary**.
- Please consult the SCHS Laboratory Test Catalog for appropriate STI screening options:
<https://stcharleshealthcare.testcatalog.org/>

Symptomatic Patients – *for patients who meet medical necessity, and insurance pre-authorization may be required.*

- Aptima Vaginitis Assay by NAA (CPT 87481, *81513, 87661)
- Chlamydia / GC Aptima Vaginitis Assay by NAA (CPT *81513, 87481, 87801x2)

Note: These panels contain "Gardnerella vaginalis" (CPT 81513), which is not appropriate for STI screening. Testing is limited to symptomatic patients who meet medical necessity, and insurance pre-authorization may be required.

Recommended Tests for STI Screening

- Chlamydia trachomatis NAA – CPT 87491
- GC (Neisseria Gonorrhea) by NAA – CPT 87591
- Trichomonas Vaginalis by NAA – CPT 87661
- Chlamydia / GC by NAA – CPT 87801
- Chlamydia / GC and Trich by NAA – CPT 87801 x2

We appreciate your cooperation and the opportunity to serve you and your patients.

For questions, please contact:

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