Group A Beta Hemolytic *Streptococcus* Qualitative Test

**CERNER ORDERABLE**
Strep Grp A PCR QL, GAS PCR

**CPT CODE**
87651

**CLINICAL UTILITY**
The Group A β-hemolytic streptococcus (*Streptococcus pyogenes*, or GAS) is a form of β-hemolytic Streptococcus bacteria responsible for many common infections. The most common types of infection include those of the skin (impetigo, cellulitis and erysipelas) and those of the throat – ‘strep throat’ also known as streptococcal pharyngitis. Less common infections include bacteremia, septic arthritis, osteomyelitis, sinusitis, meningitis and pneumonia. Rapid diagnosis of GAS pharyngitis may improve patient care by ensuring that patients with GAS pharyngitis are treated quickly and also avoiding unnecessary use of antibiotics in those without GAS infection. IU Health Molecular Pathology lab GAS QL PCR is to be used to follow-up negative Rapid Group A Strep Screens.

**METHODOLOGY**
Qualitative PCR

**SPECIMENS**
Throat Swab

**SPECIMEN STABILITY**
Refrigerate up to 72 hours after collection.
Greater than 72 hours after collection freeze.

**SHIPPING**
Ship specimen at refrigerator temperature

**CAUSES FOR REJECTION**
Incorrect collection swab
Not stored properly after collection

**SPECIFICITY**
The primer used detects the exotoxin B gene of the Group A beta hemolytic streptococcus

**ASSAY RANGE**
Qualitative results (Detected/Not detected)

**TURNAROUND TIME**
7 days a week, 24 hours

1. Reference information can be found in the Indiana University Health Molecular Assay Procedures.