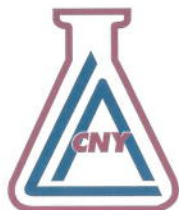


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## **LABORATORY ALLIANCE**

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To: Hospital Providers  
Infectious Disease Physicians

From: Paul Granato, PhD  
Russell A. Rawling, MS, MT(ASCP)

Date: August 14, 2017

Subject: Discontinuation of Quantitative Blood Culture Test

Effective immediately, the Microbiology Department of Laboratory Alliance of Central New York will no longer offer the quantitative blood culture test: Blood Culture, Quantitative Line (BLCQL) and Blood Culture, Quantitative Peripheral (BLCQP), used for evaluating patients with possible central line or port infections.

This decision was based on the infrequency of test utilization. For each of the last several years, only one or two quantitative blood culture tests have been ordered.

This low frequency in test ordering suggests that clinicians no longer regard the test useful in evaluating patients with central line or port infections. Also, due to inordinate delays in transport, blood specimens cannot be sent to a reference laboratory for quantitative testing.

Please contact Dr. Paul Granato, Director of Microbiology (315-410-7036), or Russ Rawling, Microbiology Manager (315-410-7060), if you have any questions or concerns.