August 4, 2025

Dear OSPHL CRO Testing Clients,

Beginning today, the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) has modified its carbapenem-producing Enterobacterales (CRE) and carbapenem-producing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA) algorithm to phase in implementation of the Xpert® Carba-R Real-Time PCR assay.

This message provides additional details. Please share this information with your colleagues who need this information.

What is changing?

OSPHL will begin the testing algorithm for CRE and CRPA isolates with the Xpert® Carba-R test for detection of and differentiation of the following resistance genes: KPC, NDM, VIM, IMP, and OXA-48. OSPHL anticipates preliminary results for this test will be available within two (2) working days of receipt at OSPHL. Carba-NP phenotypic results will follow.

A copy of the new testing algorithm is provided as an attachment to this message and is linked from the CRO Lab Test Menu.

These changes are being made to provide our clients with improved detection of carbapenemases in CRPA, previously not detected at OSPHL. In addition, the algorithm change provides workflow efficiencies and provides our clients with faster results.

What is not changing?

There is no change to sample submission requirements. CRE and CRPA isolates will continue to be tested at OSPHL.

Acinetobacter species (CRA) and pan-resistant (Pan-R) or multi-drug resistant organism (MDRO) isolates will continue to be forwarded to the Antibiotic Resistance Laboratory Network (ARLN) laboratory at the Washington State Public Health Laboratory (WAPHL) for testing.

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Our team looks forward to providing you with this enhanced level of service. Please contact the laboratory with questions about this change at 503-693-4100.

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Sincerely,

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