MEMORANDUM:

To: Medical Staff
   ED Staff
   Resident Staff
   Practice Managers
   Nurse Managers

From: Maria Pedemonte, Laboratory Medical Director
      William Siemers, Laboratory Administrative Director
      Karen Tyrol, Microbiology Supervisor

Date: February 1, 2019

TESTING FOR MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE FROM THROAT SWABS

Effective February 4, 2019, the laboratory is introducing the Meridian Mycoplasma Direct assay, a rapid diagnostic test for the direct detection of DNA from Mycoplasma pneumoniae in throat swabs obtained from patients suspected of having Mycoplasma pneumoniae infection.

**Ordering:** Test code MYCOP – Mycoplasma pneumoniae PCR-Throat Swab

**Specimen Collection and Transport:**

Proper specimen collection is essential for correct results. Required specimen is a throat (pharyngeal) swab in the red-capped double swab culture transport system (with both swabs included) or E-swab collection system. No gel swabs are acceptable for this test.

Other respiratory specimen types (e.g. sputum, nasopharyngeal): Will be referred for testing to Mayo Clinical Laboratories, with expected turnaround time-to-result of 3-4 days. Please order test code MPPCR for all non-throat specimens.

**Result Reporting:**

Turnaround Time:
24 hours - Testing will be performed on day shift Monday through Sunday.

**Laboratory Contact:**

For more detailed information, please do not hesitate to contact Karen Tyrol at x6107 with any questions regarding this new rapid test.