<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Lab Dept:</strong></th>
<th>Microbiology/Virology</th>
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<td><strong>Test Name:</strong></td>
<td>STREP SCREEN, RAPID</td>
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**General Information**

- **Lab Order Codes:** SSCR
- **Synonyms:** Rapid Strep Screen; Screen for group A *Streptococcus*, Rapid; Beta Strep group A Screen; Group A Strep, Rapid Antigen Test, Throat; Throat for Rapid Strep Screen
- **Related information:** [Refer to Group A Strep DNA by PCR](#)
- **CPT Codes:** 87430 – Infectious agent antigen detection by enzyme immunoassay technique. Qualitative or semiquantitative multiple step method; *Streptococcus*, group A
- **Test Includes:** Detection of group A streptococcal antigen; if negative, PCR will be performed with an additional charge.

**Logistics**

- **Lab Testing Sections:** Microbiology
- **Phone Numbers:**
  - MIN Lab: 612-813-5866
  - STP Lab: 651-220-6555
- **Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours
- **Turnaround Time:** 1 hour
- **Special Instructions:** Specimen site and date/time of collection are required for processing.

**Specimen**

- **Specimen Type:** Throat swab
- **Container:** Dual swab transport system
- **Volume:** 2 throat swabs
- **Collection:**
  1. Depress tongue with tongue depressor.
  2. Sample the posterior pharynx, tonsils, and inflamed areas with sterile swabs.
  3. Place swabs in transport medium.
**Transport/Storage:** Transport to the Microbiology Laboratory immediately at room temperature.

**Sample Rejection:** Specimen with a transit time exceeding 4 hours after collection; specimen not submitted in appropriate transport container; improperly labeled specimen. If an unacceptable specimen is received, the physician or nursing station will be notified and another specimen will be requested before the specimen is discarded.

**Interpretive**

**Reference Range:** No group A streptococcal antigen detected

**Limitations:** Negative results may be obtained due to low antigen concentration below the sensitivity of this test.

**Methodology:** Membrane-bound enzyme-linked immunosorbant assay (ELISA)

**Contraindications:** Throat cultures are not advised for patients with inflamed epiglottis. Swabbing the epiglottis may precipitate acute respiratory obstruction.

**References:**


**Updates:**

11/20/2011: CPT 87081 removed, no longer associated with this procedure.
10/8/2014: Reflex to PCR instead of culture for negatives.