



ASSOCIATION FOR MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY
Education. Innovation & Improved Patient Care. Advocacy.
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Association for Molecular Pathology Publishes Report on Use of Multiplex Panels for Diagnosing Infectious Diseases

New joint consensus report authored by representatives from AMP, ASM, IDSA, and PASCV

ROCKVILLE, Md. – Sept. 26, 2023 – The Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP), the premier global molecular diagnostic professional society, today published a review of the current benefits and challenges to using multiplex PCR panels for the detection of microbial pathogens from gastrointestinal, central nervous system, lower respiratory tract, and joint specimens. The manuscript, "[Exploring the Utility of Multiplex Infectious Disease Panel Testing for Diagnosis of Infection in Different Body Sites: A Joint Report of the Association for Molecular Pathology, American Society for Microbiology \(ASM\), Infectious Diseases Society of America \(IDSA\), and Pan American Society for Clinical Virology \(PASCV\),](#)" was released online ahead of publication in *The Journal of Molecular Diagnostics*.

Multiplex molecular panels continue to be adopted by more clinical laboratories for the detection of microbial pathogens in a wider range of settings. Although there is substantial data demonstrating the clinical impact of multiplex panels for respiratory pathogens, there is relatively less information available from other body sites. The AMP Infectious Diseases Multiplex Working Group conducted a review on the use of multiplex PCR panels for the detection of pathogens from gastrointestinal, central nervous system, lower respiratory tract, and joint specimens. The report also highlighted future directions and novel approaches to detection of pathogens in alternate specimen types, and outlined challenges associated with the implementation of these multiplex PCR panels.

"Molecular multiplex panels are quickly supplanting conventional pathogen detection methods," said Michael A. Lewinski, PhD, Chair of the AMP Infectious Diseases Multiplex Working Group. "This new report offers a detailed snapshot of the various clinical and analytical benefits and challenges associated with these panels for diagnosis of infection in different body sites. We also raise a few questions that warrant further study."

"Evidence regarding clinical utility of multiplex diagnostic panels for infectious diseases continues to emerge and needs to be published," said Esther Babady, PhD, AMP member, PASCV project representative, and Chief of the Clinical Microbiology Service at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. "AMP in collaboration with organizations like ASM, IDSA, and PASCV will continue to monitor real-world evidence, share our members' expertise, and provide the broader laboratory community with a menu of resources to help improve clinical practice."

To read the full manuscript, please visit <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmoldx.2023.08.005>.

ABOUT AMP

The Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP) was founded in 1995 to provide structure and leadership to the emerging field of molecular diagnostics. AMP's 2,900+ members practice various disciplines of molecular diagnostics, including bioinformatics, infectious diseases, inherited conditions, and oncology. Our members are pathologists, clinical laboratory directors, basic and translational scientists, technologists, and trainees that practice in a variety of settings, including academic and community medical centers, government, and industry. Through the efforts of its Board of Directors, Committees, Working Groups, and Members, AMP is the primary

resource for expertise, education, and collaboration in one of the fastest-growing fields in healthcare. AMP members influence policy and regulation on the national and international levels, ultimately serving to advance innovation in the field and protect patient access to high-quality, appropriate testing. For more information, visit www.amp.org and follow AMP on X: [@AMPath](https://twitter.com/AMPath).

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