Culture, *Streptococcus* Screen Beta-Hemolytic, Throat (Group A Only)

**Method:** Culture

**CPT Code:** 87081

**Preferred Specimen:** Throat Swab

**Other Acceptable Specimens:** None

**Specimen Container:** Culture collection swab

**Specimen Identification:** Label transport tube with patient’s first and last name, DOB and date/time of collection.

**Special Instructions:**
- Indicate specimen source on requisition.
- Both tonsillar pillars and the oropharynx should be swabbed. Do not allow the swab to touch the tongue.

**Shipping Requirements:** Store and ship at room temperature. Transport to lab as soon as possible.

**Sample Rejection Criteria:**
- Inappropriate specimen transport
- Expired transport medium
- Leaking transport container
- Mislabeled specimen
- Unlabeled specimen

**Turn-around-time:** 48-72 hours