

Presenter: Nancy Mitchell, NP

Topic: Gonorrhea infection in a prepubertal child

Why this case is of interest:

- Initial urine NAAT (TMA) positive for gonorrhea
- Second, different NAAT on same urine sample was negative for gonorrhea
- Vaginal culture was negative for gonorrhea

Case summary:

Seven year-old autistic female found by mom in bed with mom's boyfriend who was passed out inebriated and naked. Mom disclosed this to hospital social worker after she was admitted after a suicide attempt. Child was brought for an evaluation by the Pediatric Emergency department by the maternal grandmother. Mom refused evidence collection. Seen by CARE Program for follow up. Child was very uncooperative for the exam. Unable to determine if there were any abnormalities in the genital exam.

Key learning points:

- How to interpret differing laboratory results (different NAATs on the same sample with different results or NAAT and culture having different results).
- How to explain to CPS and parents the meaning of differing results.

Summary of literature:

Hammerschlag MR, Guillén CD. Medical and legal implications of testing for sexually transmitted infections in children. *Clin Microbiol Rev.* 2010 Jul; 23(3):493-506.

Hammerschlag MR, Gaydos CA. Guidelines for the use of molecular biological methods to detect sexually transmitted pathogens in cases of suspected sexual abuse in children. *Methods Mol Biol.* 2012; 903:307-17.

Hammerschlag MR. Sexual assault and abuse of children. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2011 Dec; 53 Suppl 3: S103-9.

MMWR Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines. December 17, 2010; Vol 59 No.RR-12. www.cdc.gov/mmwr.