

## Nontuberculous Mycobacterium (NTM) Positive Screen with Referral

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Today you underwent screening in clinic related to the nontuberculous mycobacterium (NTM)/heater-cooler advisory. In rare cases use of heater-cooler devices during heart surgery may lead to an infection called Nontuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM).

Your screening test for this infection was positive, but this **does not mean** that you have this infection. Further lab testing is needed to confirm an infection.

Some of the lab results may take up to 8 weeks to finalize. You will receive a letter when your cultures have finalized as negative. If your testing is positive, our clinic staff will contact you to discuss the results

Based on your lab results, you may be referred to Infectious Disease and/or Ophthalmology (retinal specialists) who will further evaluate your symptoms as they relate to *Mycobacterium chimaera*.

### **When should I contact my doctor?**

If you have any of the following symptoms for longer than one week, please call your primary care doctor, cardiologist, or cardiac surgeon's office:

- Fevers
- Chills
- Drenching night sweats
- Pain, redness or drainage from your incision
- Unexplained fatigue
- Poor weight gain/weight loss

- Unexplained vision changes or “floaters” in visual field
- Muscle aches
- Bone pain, swollen joints, or swollen glands
- Any other unexplainable symptoms

### **What is the contact information?**

- Adult cardiac surgery clinic: 1(888) 287 - 1082, choose prompt #4.
- Pediatric cardiology clinic: (734) 764 - 5176.

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