



## **New Reimbursement Codes for BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Respiratory and Gastrointestinal Panels**

**Marcy l'Étoile, France – April 29, 2019** – bioMérieux, a world leader in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics, today announced that the American Medical Association (AMA) has assigned and published Proprietary Laboratory Analyses (PLA) Codes for the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Respiratory Panel (RP), the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Respiratory Panel 2 (RP2), the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Respiratory Panel (RP) EZ, and the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Gastrointestinal (GI) Panel.

The AMA creates and assigns PLA Codes for clinical laboratory tests unique to an individual laboratory or manufacturer. Each PLA code identifies a specific laboratory's or manufacturer's test. The new BIOFIRE PLA codes were published by the AMA on April 1, 2019 and will become effective on July 1, 2019.

Randy Rasmussen, bioMérieux Executive VP of Molecular Biology and BioFire CEO, said: *"We believe that these new PLA codes for the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Panels represent a significant improvement to the reimbursement landscape for our market-leading syndromic testing products. In addition to providing much-needed clarity, we are optimistic the new PLA codes will also improve access to this new technology that has been shown to improve patient outcomes and reduce overall healthcare costs. A growing body of published clinical data shows that our syndromic testing products reduce patient exposure to unnecessary antibiotics, decrease hospital lengths of stay, and lead to better informed decisions regarding patient admission, isolation, and therapy."*

bioMérieux also noted that they expect broad adoption of these new PLA codes throughout the United States. *"BIOFIRE's syndromic testing panels are now utilized by hundreds of hospitals and laboratories in the US and are playing a larger and larger role in the clinical diagnosis of infectious diseases within our healthcare community. Well-reasoned reimbursement medical policies and coding are important to the appropriate adoption and utilization of this new, powerful technology. These new PLA codes are a big step in the right direction,"* Rasmussen added.

## ABOUT THE BIOFIRE FILMARRAY RANGE

The BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® System is an FDA-cleared and CE-marked multiplex PCR system that integrates sample preparation, amplification, and detection into one closed system. The BIOFIRE FILMARRAY System requires only two minutes of hands-on time and has a total run time of about 45 to 75 minutes, depending on the panel. The BIOFIRE FILMARRAY System has the largest infectious disease pathogen menu commercially available and is composed of:

- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Respiratory Panel**, a comprehensive panel of 20 respiratory viruses and bacteria performed directly on nasopharyngeal swabs in viral transport media.
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Respiratory Panel 2 (RP2)**, a comprehensive panel of 21 respiratory viruses and bacteria performed directly on nasopharyngeal swabs in transport media.
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Respiratory Panel 2 plus (RP2plus)**, a comprehensive panel of 22 respiratory viruses and bacteria performed directly on nasopharyngeal swabs in transport media.
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **RP EZ** for the detection of 11 viral and 3 bacterial pathogens associated with respiratory infections. FDA cleared and CLIA-waived for use in the US only.
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Blood Culture Identification (BCID) Panel**, capable of identifying 27 of the most common causes of bloodstream infections and associated antimicrobial resistances directly from positive blood culture.
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Gastrointestinal (GI) Panel**, for identification of 22 of the most common viral, bacterial, and parasitic causes of infectious diarrhea directly from stool in Cary Blair transport media.
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Meningitis/Encephalitis (ME) Panel**, identifying 14 bacterial, viral, and fungal causes of meningitis and encephalitis directly from cerebrospinal fluid.
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Pneumonia Panel**, a comprehensive panel of 33 respiratory viruses, bacteria, and antimicrobial resistance genes performed directly on sputum, endotracheal aspirate, or bronchoalveolar lavage (including mini-BAL).
- BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® **Pneumonia Panel plus**, a comprehensive panel of 34 respiratory viruses, bacteria, and antimicrobial resistance genes performed directly on sputum, endotracheal aspirate, or bronchoalveolar lavage (including mini-BAL).

As of December 31, 2018, the number of BIOFIRE FILMARRAY Systems installed globally reached about 8,200 units.

## ABOUT BIOMÉRIEUX

### *Pioneering Diagnostics*

A world leader in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics for over 55 years, bioMérieux is present in more than 150 countries and serves more than 160 countries with the support of a large network of distributors. In 2018, revenues reached €2.4 billion, with over 90% of international sales.

bioMérieux provides diagnostic solutions (systems, reagents, software, services) which determine the source of disease and contamination to improve patient health and ensure consumer safety. Its products are mainly used for diagnosing infectious diseases. They are also used for detecting microorganisms in agri-food, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.



bioMérieux is listed on the Euronext Paris stock market.

Symbol: BIM – ISIN Code: FR0013280286

Reuters: BIOX.PA/Bloomberg: BIM.FP

## CONTACTS

### *Media Relations*

#### **bioMérieux**

Auree Sergeant

+33 (0)4 78 87 20 53

[media@biomerieux.com](mailto:media@biomerieux.com)

#### **BioFire Diagnostics, LLC**

Mari Hoidal

+1 801-736-6354 x1774

[mari.hoidal@biofiredx.com](mailto:mari.hoidal@biofiredx.com)