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COVID-19 UPDATE

Information about COVID-19 information is updated frequently. For the most current information available, refer to the [MDH](#) or [CDC](#) websites.

Supplies:

- Due to a national shortage of collection supplies for COVID-19 testing, Allina Health Laboratory is currently unable to fill any supply orders received.
- Allina Health Laboratory has limited quantities of supplies for the collection and transport of other viral and PCR testing. Each order will be evaluated upon receipt to determine if it can be filled.
- Due to the COVID work efforts, routine supply orders may take longer than the standard 3-5 days. If a need is urgent, please contact Client Services to expedite the order.

Couriers:

- Allina Health Laboratory will facilitate the transport of any samples that you collect for the COVID-19 testing to the MN Department Health.
 - ◇ Samples for COVID-19 must be packaged separately of all other samples, and each must be accompanied by the two completed forms required by MDH (available in our test catalog).
 - ◇ The bag must be clearly marked as a pass-through to MDH.
 - ◇ There is no tracking of these samples, and Allina Health Laboratory cannot be responsible for any lost samples.
 - ◇ Using this courier process may delay the arrival of specimens to MDH (as opposed to sending direct).

Testing:

- Due to the national sample collection supply shortage, MDH and health systems in our state are being required to make adjustments to testing criteria in order to focus on the highest priority specimens, which include hospitalized patients, health care workers and persons in congregate living settings, such as long-term care.

Billing:

- Following the recommendations for social distancing and remote work due to the COVID-19 pandemic, much of our lab billing department is now working remotely.
 - ◇ Because of this, we are requesting your assistance so that we are able to process the insurance adjustment requests submitted by our clients as quickly and efficiently as possible. When submitting a completed form to the Allina Health Laboratory billing department, rather than faxing the document, please scan and email the document, securely, to Labbilling@allina.com. This email address is also included on the form itself.
 - * Billing adjustment forms, Billing adjustment form examples and instructions can all be found on the Billing corrections tab of the [Lab billing page](#) of our website.
 - ◇ Because staff is working remotely, you may receive an increased number of phone calls requesting missing billing information, as opposed to the faxes that you are accustomed to seeing.

COAGULATION

Fibrinogen, quantitative reference range change

Approximately every 12 months, a new lot of coagulation testing reagent is made available by the instrumentation reagent vendor. When the new lot of reagent is received, thorough validation testing is done to establish a new mean normal reference value.

On March 17, 2020 the reference range for the Fibrinogen, quantitative assay (101/85384.0) changed as indicated below.

Previous	New
170-440 mg/dL	200-450 mg/dL

Thrombin time reference range change

Approximately every 12 months, a new lot of coagulation testing reagent is made available by the instrumentation reagent vendor. When the new lot of reagent is received, thorough validation testing is done to establish a new mean normal reference value.

On March 17, 2020 the reference range for the Thrombin time assay (510/85670.2) changed as indicated below.

Previous	New
<22 seconds	<20 seconds

REFERRAL TESTING

Hepatitis Be Ab specimen transport update

LabCorp has shared transport and stability changes for the Hepatitis Be Ab assay (13339/LAB13339) which are effective immediately.

Previous	New
Refrigerated	Refrigerated (<i>preferred</i>) – 7 days Ambient – 7 days Frozen – 1 year

Hepatitis Be Ag specimen transport update

LabCorp has shared transport and stability changes for the Hepatitis Be Ag assay (13338/LAB13338) which are effective immediately.

Previous	New
Frozen (<i>preferred</i>) – 1 year Refrigerated – 7 days	Refrigerated (<i>preferred</i>) – 7 days Ambient – 7 days Frozen – 1 year

Immunoglobulin G, subclasses 1-4 reference range change

LabCorp has announced a reference range change for the Immunoglobulin G quant component of the Immunoglobulin G, subclasses 1-4 assay (13549), which will go into effect on March 30, 2020.

	Current	New		
Reference range	Immunoglobulin G, quant: 700 - 1600 mg/dL IgG, subclass 1: 248 - 810 mg/dL IgG, subclass 2: 130 - 555 mg/dL IgG, subclass 3: 15 - 102 mg/dL IgG, subclass 4: 2 - 96 mg/dL	Immunoglobulin G, quant (mg/dL)		
		Age	Male	Female
		0 - 10 days	496 - 1231	496 - 1231
		11 days - 6 months	175 - 639	184 - 697
		7 - 11 months	261 - 791	295 - 787
		1 - 3 years	428 - 1028	451 - 1071
		4 - 6 years	538 - 1216	583 - 1262
		7 - 9 years	580 - 1302	630 - 1350
		10 - 11 years	601 - 1351	646 - 1407
		12 - 13 years	610 - 1367	692 - 1433
		14 - 15 years	630 - 1392	717 - 1463
		16 - 19 years	671 - 1456	719 - 1475
		>19 years	603 - 1613	586 - 1602
		IgG subclasses Subclass 1: 248 - 810 mg/dL Subclass 2: 130 - 555 mg/dL Subclass 3: 15 - 102 mg/dL Subclass 4: 2 - 96 mg/dL		

Vitamin C assay changes

LabCorp has announced a methodology change for the Vitamin C assay (14413), effective April 13, 2020, which will in turn affect specimen requirement and reference ranges.

	Current	New
Method	High-pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) with electrochemical (EC) detection	Liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC/MS-MS)
Specimen type	Serum	Lithium heparin (Li hep) plasma
Collection container	Gold SST	Lt green PST
Reference range	0-11 mo: not established 1-12 yrs: 0.2 - 2.3 mg/dL ≥13 yrs: 0.2 - 2.0 mg/dL	0.4 - 2.0 mg/dL

**Thank you for choosing Allina Health Laboratory -
we value your business!**