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BILLING AND COMPLIANCE

Aetna Health Insurance changes

Due to changes that Allina Health Laboratory is experiencing with the Aetna insurance company, effective immediately, and for any claims dating back to date of service of 4/01/2020, testing referred on to LabCorp may be billed to the patient's insurance by LabCorp, rather than by Allina Health Laboratory.

Please notify your patients who have Aetna insurance of this possibility.

New ABN form

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a new ABN which must be in place by August 31, 2020. The new version of the ABN, along with instructions for completion, are available for printing on the [Medical Necessity](#) tab of the Lab billing page on our [Allina Health Laboratory](#) website.

COAGULATION

aPTT reference range change

Changing to a new lot of aPTT reagent requires thorough validation testing to establish new "Normal Reference" and "Therapeutic Heparin Response" ranges. This process occurs approximately every 12 months when a new lot of reagent has been made available by the instrumentation reagent vendor.

As we prepare for changing to a new aPTT reagent lot, Allina Health Laboratories Coagulation Department undertakes a new "normal range" study using 25 specimens from persons known to be free of coagulation abnormalities and not on any current medications. These samples are run at every site, on each analyzer, to give us a large volume dataset and a thorough representation of instrument comparability.

Heparin responsiveness of the new lot of aPTT reagent is also assessed in more than 100 patients currently on heparin therapy which is correlated with anti-Xa chromogenic heparin levels. This correlation study is the basis for the new heparin aPTT therapeutic range.

The new lot of reagent went into use on **June 30th, 2020**.

| | Previous | NEW |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Normal reference range | 26-35 sec | 24-34 sec |
| Heparin therapeutic range | 65-99 sec | 74-104 sec |

FLOW CYTOMETRY

Immunodeficiency panel (5239) obsolete

Effective August 4, 2020 the Immunodeficiency panel (5239/LAB5239) will become obsolete and will no longer be available to order.

The suggested alternative test is the Quantitative Lymphocyte subsets (TBNK) panel (14271/LAB14271), indicated for the immunological assessment of normal individuals, and patients having, or suspected of having, immunodeficiency.

Quantitative lymphocytes subset panel (14271) available

Effective August 4, 2020, the Allina Health Laboratory will offer Quantitative lymphocytes subsets by Flow Cytometry.

The Quantitative lymphocytes subsets is useful for:

- Immunological assessment of normal individuals and patients having, or suspected of having, immunodeficiency
- Initial screening and follow up monitoring of patients with primary immunodeficiencies
- Assessment of immune reconstitution post hematopoietic cell transplantation
- Screening for gross quantitative anomalies in lymphocyte subsets in infection or malignancies
- Any clinical scenario where enumeration of major lymphocyte subsets in peripheral blood is indicated

| Name | Quantitative lymphocytes subsets |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Test # | 14271 |
| Excellian order | LAB14271 |
| Abbreviation | TBNK |
| Specimen | 4.0mL EDTA whole blood |
| Transport/stability | Ambient (strict) – 24 hrs |
| Days set up | Mo - Fr |
| Turn around time | 2 days |

Interfaced clients: If this is an assay that may be utilized by your site, please contact your account representative for build information and testing assistance.

REFERRAL TESTING

Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD), quant, reference range change

LabCorp has announced a reference range change for the Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD), quantitative, blood and RBC (13506/LAB13506) assay which will go into effect on August 31, 2020.

REFERENCE RANGE IN UNITS/TRILLION RBC'S

| Current | NEW | | |
|---------|---------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 146-376 | Age | Male | Female |
| | 0 - 30 days | 119 - 734 | 260 - 728 |
| | 31 days - 6 months | 4 - 535 | 59 - 511 |
| | 7 months - 12 years | 58 - 384 | 112 - 366 |
| | 13 - 17 years | 108 - 368 | 155 - 399 |
| | 18 - 30 years | 156 - 397 | 155 - 399 |
| | >30 years | 127 - 427 | 127 - 427 |

Thank you for choosing Allina Health Laboratory -

We appreciate your business!