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BILLING AND COMPLIANCE

Celiac Disease HLA DQ Association CPT code change

Quick reference

Effective immediately, there is a CPT code update for the Celiac Disease HLA DQ Association 13543/LAB13543

Details

Previous CPT	New CPT
81377 81383	81377 x 2

COAGULATION

Expected aPTT reference range change delayed

Quick Reference

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 is made available by the instrumentation reagent vendor.

Details

This change will go into effect on a date yet to be determined. Date range likely to be near or on August 30th or Sept 20th, 2022.

	Current (seconds)	New (seconds)
Normal Reference Range	25 - 36	24 - 33
Heparin Therapeutic Range	76 - 99	70 - 95

HELP US HELP YOU

Keeping your provider list current

To ensure accurate reports as well as accurate billing of insurance claims, please re-view your Allina Health Laboratory request forms on a regular basis to make sure that we are maintaining a complete and accurate provider listing for your facility.

If any updates (removals or additions) are needed, please submit a completed [Provider change request](#) form, available on the billing page of our website, or contact your Account Representative for assistance.

REFERRAL TESTING

Monkey Pox

Quick reference

On August 2, 2022, the Monkeypox (Orthopoxvirus), DNA, PCR assay (994/ LAB994), referred to LabCorp, became available to order.

Details

This test is the suggested alternative for the Poxvirus molecular detection (994/ LAB994) which has been sent to MDH.

Monkeypox (Orthopoxvirus), DNA, PCR-994

Test info	Specimen	Performance	Clinical and Interpretive info	Billing	Tracking
Test name:	Monkeypox (Orthopoxvirus), DNA, PCR				
Test number:	994				
Excellian order number:	LAB994				
Alternate names:	Monkey pox orthopox virus				
Useful for:	Vesicular specimens collected from persons infected with a non-variola Orthopoxvirus (such as vaccinia, monkeypox, or cowpox) are expected to produce a positive result with this assay. Although this assay does not differentiate vaccinia or monkeypox virus from cowpox, camelpox, ectomelia or gerbilpox virus, a positive result with this assay in the United States is most likely due to monkeypox virus or vaccinia virus; however, potential exposure to other Orthopoxviruses should be considered.				
Limitations:	A false negative result may occur if a sample is improperly collected, transported or handled. False negative results may occur if the quantity of viral DNA present in the sample is below the limit of detection for the assay				

Covid serology

Quick reference

Effective August 2, 2022, Allina Health Laboratory offers the Covid 19 antibody serology assay (14598/LAB14598) referred to LabCorp. COVID-19 Serology testing will no longer be performed at Allina Health Laboratory .

Details

COVID-19 antibody serology-14598

Test info	Specimen	Performance	Clinical and Interpretive info	Billing	Tracking
Test name:			COVID-19 antibody serology		
Test number:			14598		
Excellian order number:			LAB14598		
Alternate names:			SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies Nucleocapsid		
Useful for:			Qualitative detection of high affinity antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid (N) protein, the virus that causes COVID-19, to aid in identifying individuals with an adaptive immune response to SARS-CoV-2, indicating recent or prior infection. Note: This assay will not detect antibodies induced by currently available SARS-CoV-2 vaccines. This assay enriches detection of higher affinity antibodies which are more likely to be specific for SARS-CoV-2 N protein. While this assay in principle can detect high affinity antibodies of all isotypes (i.e., IgG, IgA, IgM), it preferentially detects IgG antibodies since these are more likely to evolve to become high affinity. Serologic results should not be used as the sole basis to diagnosis or exclude recent SARS-CoV-2 infection. This test is recommended for individuals at greater than or equal to 14 days post-symptom onset or following exposure to individuals with confirmed COVID-19. The incubation period for COVID-19 ranges from 5 to 7 days.		

Interleukin 6

Quick reference

Effective August 9, 2022, Allina Health Laboratory will offer the Interleukin 6 assay (3546/LAB3546) referred to LabCorp. This assay had been referred to Mayo Medical Laboratories.

Details

Interleukin 6-3546

Test info	Specimen	Performance	Clinical and Interpretive info	Billing	Tracking
Test name:			Interleukin 6		
Test number:			3546		
Excellian order number:			LAB3546		
Abbreviation:			IL6		
Alternate names:			Cytokine IL-6		
Useful for:			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Quantitative determination of IL-6 (Interleukin-6) in human serumThis assay is used to assist in identifying severe inflammatory response in patients with confirmed COVID-19 illness to aid in determining the risk of intubation with mechanical ventilation, in conjunction with clinical findings		

COMMUNICATIONS

Courier Announcement

We are pleased to announce our new partnership with MedSpeed, a company specializing in courier services for health care systems nationwide and highly trained in specimen handling. MedSpeed will complement our current Allina Health employed couriers. The change from TForce (our current third-party courier) to MedSpeed, will be effective on Monday, October 31, 2022.

Implementation schedule:

August 1 –October 3rd:

- We will contact you to determine a date and time for MedSpeed to conduct a site visit
- MedSpeed will distribute barcode labels and any other necessary items to sites

October 31st:

- MedSpeed to begin providing courier services

Additional information will be shared as we move forward with this implementation.

If you have any questions about this transition, please contact your Allina Health Laboratory Account Representative.

SUPPLIES

Mayo Aliquot Tube Supply Change

Mayo Clinic Laboratories will transition to new clear and amber 5 mL aliquot tubes due to a recent change in the manufacturing process. The new tube is slightly smaller than the current tube and is not compatible with existing 5 mL aliquot tube caps.



To do:

- Continue to order supply items using the “current” order number in the Allina Supply Catalog. Supplies come in premade bags of 100, so one order will supply 100 tubes and 100 caps. Once the Central Supply inventory is depleted of the current aliquot tubes, the supply catalog will be updated with the new aliquot tubes.
- Ensure that the correct caps are used with the corresponding aliquot tubes. Caps are NOT interchangeable. If the incorrect cap is used, the specimen will leak.

Navy and Tan blood tube shortage

Tubes will not be available through the supply catalog. Current conservation efforts should remain in place as acquisition of these tubes continues to be very difficult. An allocated quantity was distributed to sites based on annual test volume/usage and current quantity on hand. Please refer to the test catalog for alternative tube types.

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