

IMMUNOGLOBULINS UPDATE

Date: February 10, 2009

To: EMH Reference Laboratory Clients

Subject: Method Change for Immunoglobulin Testing (IgG, IgA, IgM)

In order to improve our efficiency and turn around time, the EMH Reference Laboratory is updating the instrumentation and test methodology for serum immunoglobulin testing.

Effective February 16, 2009, these tests will be performed in the automated laboratory using a turbidimetric methodology instead of the rate nephelometry method currently in use. The new instrumentation will increase test runs from 5 days/week (Mon-Fri) to 7 days/week (Mon-Sun).

The required specimen is serum collected in one SST tube. A summary of updated test information is given in the table below. Please make any necessary changes to your Client Users Manual.

<i>Test Name</i>	<i>Method</i>	<i>Reference Values</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Analytic Time</i>	<i>Test Code</i>	<i>CPT</i>
IgG	Turbidimetric	No change	Daily	4 hrs	IGG1	82784
IgA	Turbidimetric	No change	Daily	4 hrs	IGA1	82784
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	Collect 1 SST (0.5 ml serum per test). Invert tube 8-10 times to mix. Clot, spin, and refrigerate within 2 hours. Stable 48 hrs.					
IgM	Turbidimetric	No change	Daily	4 hrs	IGM1	82784
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	Collect 1 SST (0.5 ml serum). Invert tube 8-10 times to mix. Clot, spin, and refrigerate within 2 hours. Stable 48 hrs. <i>Do not freeze.</i>					
Immunoglobulin Panel	Turbidimetric	No change	Daily	4 hrs	IMM1	82784 x 3
	Individual tests included in panel: IgG, IgA, IgM					
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	Collect 1 SST (1 ml serum). Invert tube 8-10 times to mix. Clot, spin, and refrigerate within 2 hours. Stable 48 hrs. <i>Do not freeze.</i>					

Note: IgG, IgA, and IgM Immunoglobulins are also included in the Liver Autoimmune Panel.

For more information regarding this notice, please call Client Services at 866-941-4542.