



**LUPUS ANTICOAGULANT UPDATE**

Date: January 17, 2008

Subject: Test Code and Component Update

Dear Valued Clients,

Effective January 23, 2008, the Hexagonal Phospholipid neutralization test (HEXPH) will not be included in the Lupus Anticoagulant panel (LA), but will automatically reflex when LA results meet reflex criteria (see table). If performed, HEXPH will be billed as a separate test.

Test Code	Ordering name	Method	Days Performed	Analytic Time	Specimen Requirements
<b>LUPU3</b>	Lupus Anticoagulant	Clot based	Mon-Fri	24 hrs	3 ml citrated platelet-poor plasma. Freeze in 3 plastic vials.
	<b>Components</b>	<b>CPT</b>	<b>Reference Range</b>		<b>Reflex Criteria</b>
	Protime APTT DRVTT	85610 85730 85613	11.8-14.5 seconds 23.2-35.3 seconds ratio $\geq$ 1.20 (positive)		If mix #1 and #2 are positive, and mix #3 negative, perform HEXPH
Test Code	Ordering Name	Method	Days Performed	Analytic Time	Specimen Requirements (if ordered separately)
<b>HEXPH</b>	Hexagonal Phospholipid	Clot based	Mon-Fri	24 hrs	0.5 ml citrated platelet-poor plasma. Freeze in plastic vial.
		<b>CPT</b>	<b>Reference Range</b>		
		85597	delta > 8 sec (positive)		

**Clinical Utility of LA and HPE**

The Dilute Russell’s Viper Venom test (DRVVT) is used to screen for the presence of Lupus anticoagulants (LA). In this test, patient samples undergo up to three mixing studies (screen, normal plasma, and high phospholipid). These mixing studies are used to differentiate LA from the other causes of prolonged coagulation results.

DRVVT test results can occasionally be inconclusive due to the intrinsic heterogeneity of LA. When this occurs, a hexagonal phase phosphatidylethanolamine neutralization test (HPE) is reflexed. Because of its high specificity, HPE neutralization is useful in confirming the presence or absence of LA when DRVVT testing is inconclusive.

If you require more information regarding this notice, please call Scott Jenkins, EMH Accounts Executive, at (630) 941-4542 ext. 44878.

jmh Jan-08

