



SERUM PROTEIN ELECTROPHORESIS UPDATE

Date: March 24, 2008

Subject: New Reflex Option for Serum Protein Electrophoresis (SPE)

Dear Valued Clients,

The EMH Reference Laboratory is pleased to offer Serum Protein Electrophoresis with Reflex (SPER).

Effective March 31, this test option will automatically reflex Immunoglobulin Panel (IMM) and Immunofixation electrophoresis (IFE) test orders when an abnormal band suspicious for monoclonal protein is detected on the SPE. When performed, the reflex tests will be billed as separate charges using CPT codes 82784 (x3) and 86334. No IMM or IFE testing will be performed if SPE results are normal.

SPE can still be ordered without the reflex option. However, if an abnormal band is reported, the ordering physician will need to contact the laboratory to request further testing on the SPE serum sample.

For details on SPE test ordering options and specimen requirements, see *Table 1 and 2* below:

Table 1. SPE with Reflex

<i>Test Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Components</i>	<i>Specimen</i>	<i>CPT</i>
Serum Protein Electrophoresis with Reflex	SPER	SPE (see table above)	1 SST (1ml serum) Refrigerate	84165
		<i>Reflex Tests</i>		
		IMM and IFE (see table above) if abnormal band is detected on SPE		

Table 2. Individual test orders

<i>Test Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Components</i>	<i>Specimen</i>	<i>CPT</i>
Serum Protein Electrophoresis	SPE	Total Protein, Albumin, Alpha-1, Alpha-2, Beta, & Gamma Globulins (g/dl) A/G ratio, SPE Interpretation	1 SST (1ml serum) Refrigerate	84165
Immunoglobulins	IMM	IgG, IgA, IgM (mg/dl)	1 SST (1ml serum) Refrigerate	82784 x3
Immunofixation	IFE	Identification of monoclonal proteins	1 SST (1ml serum) Refrigerate	86334

For more information regarding this notice, please contact Ellen Michael, Senior Sales Representative, by phone (847-612-7058) or email at EMICHAE@emhc.org

jmh Mar-08