

October 22, 2007

**Dear Colleague:**

*Specialty Laboratories* is pleased to inform you of new tests along with some test changes related to our continuous efforts to provide clinically relevant reports as quickly as possible.

We would like to highlight *Specialty's* **Warfarin Sensitivity DetectR™ (VKORC1 and CYP2C9) [5055]**. This assay assists physicians in establishing a patient specific dose, lessening the risk for adverse bleeding or clotting events. The assay has also been **approved for use in New York**. We would like to invite you to participate in a free CME web conference on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9 am pacific time entitled "Warfarin Dosing using Genetic Information: A Model for Hospital Policy Development." For more information or to register for the CME please go to [www.specialtylabs.com](http://www.specialtylabs.com), and click on the CME Hot Button.

In our efforts to provide better turnaround time and more clinically relevant reports for drugs of abuse testing we have trimmed several panels of clinically insignificant metabolites. We have also increased the frozen specimen stability for Prothrombin Time [3892] to 2 months at -20° C or 6 months at -70° C.

We also require that you always provide patient demographics, physician name and phone number when submitting lead and/or heavy metal testing, since the majority of the state Departments of Health will not accept the results without the accompanying patient demographics and physician information.

Thank you for choosing *Specialty*, we look forward to your continued support.

For additional information, please visit our Web site at [www.specialtylabs.com](http://www.specialtylabs.com) or contact Client Relations at 800-421-4449.



Christopher Lockhart, M.D.  
Laboratory Director

# New Tests:

## 2941M Fungal Stain: Miscellaneous (Available Nov. 1, 2007)

<u>Component</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>ReferenceRange/Units</u>
<b>Culture Site</b>		
<b>Fungal Stain</b>	<b>Stain</b>	<b>No fungal elements</b>
Specimen/Stability	Miscellaneous Specimen in prepared slides/smears, sterile container or tube Smear/Slides (2); Ambient 24 hrs, Refrigerated 7 days Sterile Container/Tube; Ambient 24 hrs, Refrigerated 72 hours Pure Culture Broth 1.0 mL; Ambient 24 hrs, Refrigerated 72 hours Culturette/Swab; Ambient 24 hrs, Refrigerated 72 hours Pure Culture Agar Slant; Ambient 24 hrs, Refrigerated 72 hours CSF 1.0 (0.2) mL; Ambient 48 hrs, Refrigerated 7 days Urine 5.0 (5.0) mL; Refrigerated 14 days	
Clinical Utility	The microscopic examination of specimens to determine the absence and presence of fungal elements helps in the early detection of fungal related diseases.	
Schedule	Sunday-Saturday	
Report	Same day	
CPT Code	87206	
Note	Calcofluorwhite is the stain used for all specimens. India ink is employed for all CSF.	
Collection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Submit two prepared smears in a slide holder or specimens in sterile, leak proof container.</li> <li>2. Acceptable specimens: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Sterile body fluids such as CSF and tissue should be shipped ambient within 24 hours of collection.</li> <li>B. Biopsy material should be kept moist by placing it between pieces of sterile gauze.</li> <li>C. All non-sterile site specimens such as respiratory and genital sources can be kept refrigerated.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. For hair, skin, or nails, please use test code 2941.</li> <li>4. Unacceptable specimens: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Whole blood</li> <li>B. Dry swabs</li> <li>C. Leaking containers</li> <li>D. Frozen specimens</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Please provide source of specimen as set up and processing department is dependent on this information.</li> <li>6. Ship overnight either ambient or refrigerated.</li> </ol>	

# Discontinued:

## Effective November 1, 2007:

**1592U      Monoclonal Gammopathy Evaluation 24hr Urine**  
Replaced by: 3125U Monoclonal Gammopathies Urine

## Effective Immediately:

**3124      Deoxycortisol, 11-**  
Replaced by: S51410 11-Deoxycortisol, LC/MS/MS, Serum

# Test Changes:

**3892      Prothrombin Time**  
Effective                      Immediately  
Stability                      Specimen is stable for 2 months frozen at -20° C or 6 months at -70° C  
Also Affected                Coagulation panels 1081, 1082, 1426, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1910, 1911, 3893, 3895, 3896, 4210, 5900, 5901, 5961, 5962, 5963, 5971, 5972, 5976, 5981, 5984, 5990, 5991

**5937      Protein S Ag, Total**  
Effective                      Immediately  
Stability                      Specimen is stable for 1 month frozen at -20°  
Also Affected                Coagulation panels 3253, 5938, 5952, 5973

**4170      Cocaine & Metabolites Confirmation Serum**  
Effective                      November 13  
Component                  Hydroxybenzoylecgonine - REMOVE  
Also Affected                Reflex of panel 4252

**4170U    Cocaine & Metabolites Confirmation Urine**  
Effective                      November 13  
Component                  Hydroxybenzoylecgonine - REMOVE  
Also Affected                Reflex of panels 4129U & 4252U

**4090      Benzodiazepines Serum**  
Effective                      November 13  
Component                  Estazolam – REMOVE  
   Flurazepam – REMOVE  
   Hydroxyethylflurazepam – REMOVE  
   Nitrazepam - REMOVE  
Also Affected                Reflex of panel 4107

<b>4090U</b>	<b>Benzodiazepines Confirmation Urine</b>	Effective Component	November 13 Desalkylflurazepam - ADD Estazolam – REMOVE Flurazepam – REMOVE Hydroxyethylflurazepam – REMOVE Nitrazepam – REMOVE Norfludiazepam - REMOVE
	Also Affected		Reflex of panels 4107U & 4129U
<b>4189U</b>	<b>Amphetamines Confirmation Urine</b>	Effective Component	November 13 Chloroamphetamine - REMOVE Benzphetamine – REMOVE Mephentermine – REMOVE
	Also Affected		Reflex of panels 4129U & 4256U
<b>4192U</b>	<b>Methadone Confirmation Urine</b>	Effective Component	November 13 EMDP - REMOVE
	Also Affected		Reflex of panels 4109U & 4129U
<b>4185</b>	<b>Opiates Confirmation Serum</b>	Effective Component	November 13 Dihydrocodeine – REMOVE Ethylmorphine – REMOVE Norcodeine – REMOVE
	Also Affected		Reflex of panel 4250
<b>4185UR</b>	<b>Opiates Confirmation Urine</b>	Effective Component	November 13 Dihydrocodeine – REMOVE Ethylmorphine – REMOVE Norcodeine – REMOVE Mormorphine – REMOVE
	Also Affected		Reflex of panels 4129U & 4250U
<b>1320</b>	<b>Creatinine</b>	Effective Ref Range	November 13 Reference range remains the same however results will be reported to 2 decimals
			0 - 1Y Not established
			2Y – 18Y (Male) 1.00 – 1.40
			2Y – 18Y (Female) 0.80 – 1.30
			> 18Y (Male) 0.90 – 1.30
			> 18Y (Female) 0.60 – 1.10
	Also Affected		1322, 1325, 5314, 5315, 5317
<b>2454</b>	<b>Hepatitis B Virus Surface Antigen</b>	Effective Ref Range Note	November 13 Nonreactive Results will be reported as Nonreactive or Reactive
	Also Affected		2461, 2463, 2464, 2470, 7756, 77557, 7758, 9928

## Reflex Hepatitis B Virus Surface Ag Neutralization

Effective November 13  
Ref Range Nonreactive  
Note Results will be reported as Nonreactive, Weakly reactive or Reactive

### 2453 Hepatitis B Virus Surface Total Abs

Effective November 13  
Ref Range Nonreactive  
Note Results will be reported as Nonreactive or Reactive  
Also Affected 2461, 2463, 2464, 7758

### 2452 Hepatitis B Virus Core Total Abs

Effective November 13  
Ref Range Nonreactive  
Note Results will be reported as Nonreactive, Indeterminate or Reactive  
Also Affected 2461, 2463, 2464, 2476, 7758

### 2457 Hepatitis B Virus Core IgM Abs

Effective November 13  
Ref Range Nonreactive  
Note Results will be reported as Nonreactive or Reactive  
Also Affected 2461, 2463, 2464, 7756, 7757, Reflex of panel 2476

### 2941 Fungal Stain

Effective November 1  
Panel Name Fungal Stain: Skin, Hair, or Nail  
Specimen Hair, skin and nail specimens in prepared slides/smears, sterile container or tube  
Smear/Slides (2); Ambient 24 hours, Refrigerated 7 days  
Sterile Container/Tube; Ambient 24 hours, Refrigerated 72 hours  
Pure Culture Broth 1.0 mL; Ambient 24 hours, Refrigerated 72 hours  
Culturette/Swab; Ambient 24 hours, Refrigerated 72 hours  
Pure Culture Agar Slant; Ambient 24 hrs, Refrigerated 72 hours  
CPT Code 87220  
Note For other specimen sources, please use test code 2941M

### 3496 Methylmalonic Acid

Effective November 13  
Ref Range <0.40 umol/L  
Note Results will be reported to 2 decimals  
Also Affected 4994, Reflex of panels 3507 & 3605

### 1325 Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR), Estimated

Effective November 13  
Ref Range > 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>