

February 27, 2009

Dear Colleague:

Specialty Laboratories is pleased to announce the introduction of an advanced kidney stone collection kit ideal for use post-lithotripsy or in the emergency room, when ordering **Stone Analysis, Kidney [4155]**. Designed with patients in mind, the cup is easy to carry and the clear plastic top allows better visualization of the stone. The tight mesh also collects the fine sediment that is so important to a good diagnosis. To order your supply of this advanced kidney stone collection kit, call client relations at 800-421-4449 and request the U-Stone Cup™.

The new ovarian cancer marker HE4, is now available to assist in monitoring patients for possible recurrence. Please call client relations or visit our website at www.specialtylabs.com for ordering information on **HE4, Ovarian Cancer Monitoring [S51786]**.

As Specialty Laboratories continues to enhance our client communications processes, we are pleased to tell you of an upcoming modification. Effective March 1, 2009, we will begin notifying clients of pre-analytical specimen issues via our automated fax notification process. This process is similar to the DCI-Pending, Test Down/Test Delay, and TNP automated fax notification processes we introduced in 2008. All are designed to improve communications and provide timelier, detailed documentation. An added benefit is that this method provides a hard copy of the issue for investigation and record keeping purposes. Please contact your client relations representative or Russ Shultz, our Manager, of Client Relations, at (800) 421-4449 x6711 with any questions.

We thank you for choosing *Specialty* and look forward to your continued support. For additional information, please visit our Web site at www.specialtylabs.com or contact Client Relations at 800-421-4449.

Respectfully Yours,



Christopher Lockhart, M.D.
Laboratory Director

Test Changes:

7761 ***Helicobacter pylori* IgG Abs**

Effective March 24
Name *Helicobacter pylori* Antibody (IgG)
Specimen/Stability Serum 1.0 (0.5) mL: Ambient 4 days, Refrigerated 7 days,
Frozen 1 Month
Note: Plasma EDTA specimens are no longer accepted
Ref Range < 0.91 Index (Negative)
0.91– 1.09 (Equivocal)
>1.09 (Positive)
Also affects DOS Code 7741

9436 **Cytomegalovirus IgG & IgM Abs [EIA]**

Effective March 24
Name Cytomegalovirus Antibodies (IgG, IgM)
Specimen/Stability Serum 1.0 (0.5) mL: Ambient 4 days, Refrigerated 7 days,
Frozen 1 Month
Note: Plasma EDTA specimens are no longer accepted
Ref Range < 0.91 Index (Negative)
0.91– 1.09 (Equivocal)
>1.09 (Positive)
Also affects DOS Codes 2231, 2486, 9901, 9911, 9431

8761 **Varicella-Zoster Virus IgG Abs**

Effective March 17
Name Varicella-Zoster Virus Antibody (IgG)
Specimen/Stability Serum 1.0 (0.5) mL: Ambient 4 days, Refrigerated 7 days,
Frozen 1 Month
Note: Plasma EDTA specimens are no longer accepted
Also affects DOS Code 8756

4133U **Cannabinoids Confirmation Urine**

Effective March 17
Specimen/Stability Urine 10.0 (6.0) mL: Ambient 14 days, Refrigerated 14 days,
Frozen 2 months

2509 **Adenovirus Ag Detection**

Effective March 17
Specimen/Stability M4 Transport Media/Swab: Ambient 24 hours, Refrigerated 48 hours
Alt Specimen Culturette/Swab: Ambient 48 hours, Refrigerated 72 hours,
Frozen 7 days
Smear/Slides: Ambient 48 hours, Refrigerated 72 hours,
Frozen 7 days
Sterile Container/Tube: Ambient 24 hours, Refrigerated 48 hours
Viral Transport Media: Ambient 48 hours, Refrigerated 72 hours

Test Changes: (cont'd)

5945 Heparin-PF4 Antibodies (HIT)

Effective	March 24
Component	OD Value (ADD)
Reference Range	<0.400 Negative
	0.400 – 0.999 Positive
	>0.999 Strongly positive

Note: OD values of ≥ 0.4 are considered a positive result. However, OD values ≥ 1.0 are associated with a nearly 6-fold increased risk of thrombosis compared to OD values between 0.4 – 0.999 (Zwicker JI, et al J Thromb Haemost 2004; 2:2133-7).

4929 Clorazepate (Tranxene®)

Effective	Immediately
Methodology	LC-MS-MS

4984 Hemoglobin Variant Screen w/Reflex Electrophoresis

Effective	Immediately
CPT Code	83021

1947 Factor VIII Activity

Effective	March 24
Reference Range	50 – 150 %
Also affects	DOS Codes 1967, 5961, 5981, 5984

7480 HIV-1 GenotypR™ PLUS (Rev Trans & Prot Inhib)

Effective	March 24
Component	Etravirine (ETR, Intelence) (ADD)
Also affects	DOS Codes 7480NY, Reflex of 7482, 7482A

5038 FLT3 & NPM1 GenotypR™

Effective	March 2
Regulatory Status	LDT (Laboratory Developed Test)
Also affects	DOS Code 5038BK

1615 Complement C1q

Effective	Immediately
Regulatory Status	LDT (Laboratory Developed Test)

The CPT Codes provided are based on AMA Guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT Coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding CPT Coding to the payer being billed.

New Referral Tests:

The following tests are now available from Quest Diagnostics and may be referred through Specialty Laboratories.

S51786	HE4, Ovarian Cancer Monitoring
S51790	Collagen Cross-Linked N-Telopeptide (NTX), 24 Hr Urine
S51808	C3d Circulating Immune Complexes
S51809	IA-2 Antibody

Please call client relations at 800-421-4449 or visit our website at www.specialtylabs.com for ordering information.

Discontinued Tests:

Effective Immediately:

- 7420 HIV-1 Phenoscript™**
Replaced by: S48870 - HIV-1 Phenosense™ [3200]
- 7420NY HIV-1 Phenoscript™ [NY]**
Replaced by: S48870 - HIV-1 Phenosense™ [3200]
- 9878 HIV-1 RNA UltraQuant® [bDNA] w/Reflex HIV-1 Phenoscript™**
Replaced by: No replacement
- S51343 Acid Phosphatase, Total [210X]**
Replaced by: No replacement

Effective March 24th :

- 9436C Cytomegalovirus IgG & IgM Abs CSF [EIA]**
Recommended replacement: S49736 – Cytomegalovirus IgG Antibody, CSF [64600] and S51001 – Cytomegalovirus IgM Antibody, CSF [64605]. Methodology is ELISA.
- 9431C Cytomegalovirus IgG Abs CSF**
Recommended replacement: S49736 – Cytomegalovirus IgG Antibody, CSF [64600]. Methodology is ELISA.
- 2486C Cytomegalovirus IgM Abs CSF**
Recommended replacement: S51001 – Cytomegalovirus IgM Antibody, CSF [64605]. Methodology is ELISA.
- 8560 Cytomegalovirus IgG Antibody Index**
Replaced by: No replacement