1/14/2015 - Immediate Action, Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute, Valencia

Revision Message!
Please note: The announcement to redirect and apply changes to TC 3164- Estrogen, Total, Serum on 2/16/2015 have been removed from this communication. The changes have been postponed to a later date (TBD).

TEST CHANGES Please Note: Not all test codes assigned to each assay are listed in the table of contents. Please refer to the complete listing on the page numbers indicated.				
Test Code	**Former Test Code**	**Test Name**	**Effective Date**	**Page #**
8658	S51297	Alpha Subunit	1/26/2015	1
929	S51650	**Vitamin C, LC/MS/MS**	2/16/2015	2

DISCONTINUED TESTS Please Note: Not all test codes assigned to each assay are listed in the table of contents. Please refer to the complete listing on the page numbers indicated.			
Test Code	**Test Name**	**Effective Date**	**Page #**
S52109	Clostridium difficile DNA and Toxin B Gene, QL Real-Time PCR	1/19/2015	3
A49782, S51779	Vitamin C (with Dilution)	2/16/2015	3

SEND OUTS Please Note: Not all test codes assigned to each assay are listed in the table of contents. Please refer to the complete listing on the page numbers indicated.				
Test Code	**Former Test Code**	**Test Name**	**Effective Date**	**Page #**
92748		HLA Typing for Narcolepsy	1/19/2015	3
92549		**HLA-DQ Typing for Narcolepsy**	1/19/2015	3

Due to the background information related to these changes, we are unable to use our normal method of communication. These changes listed in this document are effective in less than 30 days. Please note the individual effective dates below, as some of these changes require IMMEDIATE ACTION.

Test Changes

The following test changes will be effective on the dates indicated below. **Please note information that is changing appears in bold text in this update.** *Former test names and test codes have been italicized.*

Alpha Subunit	
Message	*****This test is not approved for New York patient testing.*****
Clinical Significance	**This assay is useful in the diagnosis and management of various pituitary, placental, pancreatic and hCG-producing tumors. The assay can also be useful for investigations where alpha subunit is increased under various physiological stimuli (e.g.,) GnRH stimulation and TRH stimulation tests.**
Effective Date	**1/26/2015**
Former Test Code	*S51297*
Test Code	**8658**
Specimen Requirements	**1 mL (0.5 mL minimum)** serum
Reject Criteria	**Gross hemolysis; grossly icteric; plasma**

The CPT Codes provided in this document 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 coding to the payor being billed. Any Profile/panel component may be ordered separately. Reflex tests are performed at an additional charge.

Specimen Stability	Room temperature: 7 days **Refrigerated: 10 days** **Frozen: 28 days**
Set-up/Analytic Time	**Set up: Tues, Fri; Report available: 4-11 days**
Reference Range	**Males:** **0.1 - 0.5** ng/mL **Premenopausal Females:** **0.1 - 0.6** ng/mL **Postmenopausal Females:** **0.1 - 1.5** ng/mL **Pregnancy (1st and 2nd Trimesters):** **35.0 - 186.0** ng/mL **Hypothyroidism:** **0.2 - 3.2** ng/mL
Always Message	**This test measures the free alpha subunit that is common to LH, FSH, TSH and hCG.** These hormones are comprised of identical alpha subunits and unique beta subunits that confer biological specificity. This test was developed and its performance characteristics have been determined by Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute, San Juan Capistrano. Performance characteristics refer to the analytical performance of the test.
Performing Site	Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute, San Juan Capistrano
Interface Mapping	**Result Code** / **Result Name** **85987500** / Alpha Subunit

Vitamin C, LC/MS/MS	
Clinical Significance	**Vitamin C is an antioxidant involved in connective tissue metabolism, drug-metabolizing systems, and mixed-function oxidase systems to list a few. Vitamin C deficiency causes scurvy; manifestations include impaired formation of mature connective tissue, bleeding into the skin, weakness, fatigue, and depression.**
Effective Date	**2/16/2015**
Former Test Name	*Vitamin C*
Former Test Code	*S51650*
Test Code	**929**
CPT Codes	**82180**
Specimen Requirements	**Preferred:** **1 mL (0.5 mL minimum) serum** **Acceptable:** **Plasma collected in a sodium heparin (green-top) tube**
Reject Criteria	**Not light protected; EDTA plasma; lithium heparin plasma; thawed samples; lipemic; hemolysis;** received room temperature; received refrigerated
Instructions	**Overnight fasting is preferred.** **Refrain from eating fruits and from taking vitamin C supplements 24 hours prior to collection.** **Collect blood into light-protected red-top evacuated tube. Allow blood to clot refrigerated. Centrifuge refrigerated at (2200-2500 rpm, 800-1000 g) for 8-10 minutes. Transfer serum to polypropylene transport tubes (protect from light) and place them immediately under dry ice or ultra-low freezer (-60° C to -90° C).** **Samples must be light protected (using amber tubes or foil) and shipped frozen on dry ice.**

Specimen Stability	Room temperature, Refrigerated **and Frozen -20°C: Unacceptable** **Frozen -70°C: 35 days**
Set-up/Analytic Time	**Set up: Tues-Sat; Report available: 5-8 days**
Reference Range	**0.2 - 1.5 mg/dL**
Methodology	**Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry**
Performing Site	Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute, San Juan Capistrano
Interface Mapping	**Result Code**: **85987460** **Result Name**: **Vitamin C, LC/MS/MS**

Discontinued Tests

Clostridium difficile DNA and Toxin B Gene, QL Real-Time PCR	
Effective Date	**1/19/2015**
Test Code	S52109
Additional Information	The recommended alternative is test code 16377-Clostridium difficile Toxin B, Qualitative Real-time PCR

Vitamin C (with Dilution)	
Effective Date	**2/16/2015**
Test Code	A49782, S51779
Additional Information	The recommended alternative is test code 929- Vitamin C, LC/MS/MS

Test Send Outs (Referrals)

HLA Typing for Narcolepsy	
Effective Date	**1/19/2015**
Test Code	92748
Additional Information	**This test will be discontinued.** **Please note: Orders for 92748 will automatically be replaced with test code 92549 – HLA DQ Typing for Narcolepsy.**

HLA-DQ Typing for Narcolepsy	
Effective Date	**1/19/2015**
Test Code	**92549**
CPT Codes	**81383**
Specimen Requirements	**Preferred:** **14 mL (5 mL minimum) whole blood collected in an EDTA (lavender-top) tube** **Acceptable:** **Whole blood collected in an ACD (yellow-top) tube**

Reject Criteria	**Received frozen; heparinized or citrated tubes**
Instructions	**Sample cannot be shipped on Saturday or the day before a holiday.** **For adult patients:** **If requesting more than one panel for HLA transplant testing, no more than 14 mL whole blood collected in an EDTA (lavender-top) tube is required.** **For pediatric patients:** **If requesting more than one panel for HLA transplant testing, follow drawing instructions according to age as specified below. No more than what is specified by age is required.** **Note:** **Pediatric volume:** **0-1 year: 3 mL** **1-5 years: 5 mL** **5-10 years: 7 mL** **>10 years: 14 mL**
Transport Temperature	**Room temperature**
Specimen Stability	**Room temperature and Refrigerated: 7 days** **Frozen: Unacceptable**
Set-up/Analytic Time	**Set up: Mon-Sat; Report available: 5-7 days**
Reference Range	**Negative**
Methodology	**Polymerase Chain Reaction Amplification and Sequence Specific Oligonucleotide Probes**
Interface Mapping	

Result Code	Result Name
86011615	HLA-DQB1*06:02
86012011	Comments

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