



November 10, 2010

Dear Valued Client:

Effective January 3, 2011 Specialty Laboratories will discontinue providing Hemocult[®] SENSE[®] (BeckmanCoulter, Inc.) test cards. We will continue to accept Hemocult SENSE cards for testing through January 31, 2011. Specialty Laboratories will continue to offer the Insure[®] test, a Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) that detects human hemoglobin in fecal specimens. Reliable medical studies demonstrate that FIT has medical benefits compared to traditional guaiac-based testing, which motivated our decision to discontinue support for Hemocult SENSE tests.

The American College of Gastroenterology guidelines state; "The preferred cancer detection test is annual FIT."¹ Clinical studies demonstrate that FIT is more sensitive and specific than traditional guaiac-based tests ("GT").^{2, 3, 4, 5} In addition to FIT offering improved sensitivity and specificity it also has improved patient compliance compared to traditional guaiac-based FOBT.

Please consult the Specialty Laboratories Client Services or contact your Specialty Laboratories representative or medical director for specific requirements and limitations on the use of Insure[®] cards.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Basel Kashlan".

Basel Kashlan, MD, FCAP
Laboratory Director

(References can be found on page 2.)

References:

¹ Rex DK, Johnson DA, Anderson JC, Schenfeld PS, Burke CA, Inadomi JM. American College of Gastroenterology Guidelines for Colorectal Cancer Screening 2008. *Am J Gastroenterol.* 2009; 104: 739-50.

² Allison JE, Tekawa IS, Ransom LJ, *et al.* A comparison of fecal occult-blood tests for colorectal-cancer screening. *N Engl J Med.* 1996; 334: 155-159.

³ Cole SR, Smith A, Bampton P, *et al.* Colorectal cancer screening: direct comparison of a brush-sampling faecal immunochemical test for hæmoglobin with a guaiac FOBT. Paper presented at: Australian Gastro Week; 2003; Cairns, Australia.

⁴ Smith A, Young GP, Cole SR, Bampton P. Comparison of a brush-sampling fecal immunochemical test for hemoglobin with a sensitive guaiac-based fecal occult blood test in detection of colorectal neoplasia. *Cancer* 2006; 107: 2152-2159. The study was funded in part by Enterix Inc. (through Enterix Australia Pty. Ltd.), the manufacturer of InSure® FIT. Enterix is now owned by Specialty Laboratories Incorporated. Neither Enterix nor Specialty Laboratories participated in the data analysis or influenced the conclusions reached by the authors.

⁵ Park D II, Ryu S, Kim Y-H, Lee S-H, Lee CK, Eun CS, Han DS. Comparison of guaic-based and quantitative immunochemical fecal occult blood testing in a population at average risk underlying colorectal cancer screening. *Am J Gastroenterology.* 2010; 105: 2017-25.