Test Bulletin

ALVERNO LABORATORIES

Dear Healthcare Provider,

The information contained here may be very important to your practice. Please take a moment to review this document.

Measles Testing
March 2024

Testing for suspected cases of measles in the Alverno Laboratories service area differs for Chicago vs. Non-Chicago residents. Regardless of patient's residence, it is recommended to order testing on patients who meet certain symptoms and exposure risk criteria. **See pages 3-4 for details.**

New Quest Test Updates
March 2024

The following test offerings are now available for ordering in Soft Lab and Atlas LIS systems:

- ENABC - Encephalitis Antibody Panel (CSF) – Quest code 12598
- CUP2 - Chronic Urticaria Panel 2 (Comprehensive) – Quest code 90123

These tests are replacements for previously discontinued offerings. **See page 5 for details.**

Fetal Fibronectin Discontinuation
April 1, 2024

Effective Monday, April 1, 2024, Quest Diagnostics will discontinue offering Fetal Fibronectin testing without a replacement offering. Clinics should refer patients to the local hospital for testing. **See page 5 for details.**

Quest Test Updates
April 15, 2024

Quest Diagnostics has discontinued the following test effective April 15, 2024:

- FLC24 - Kappa/Lambda Light Chains, Total, w/Calculation, 24-Hour Urine

See page 6 for details.

Cortisol Testing
April 2024

Alverno Laboratories offers two distinct test codes which both measure cortisol. These two tests should not be ordered at the same time. **See page 7 for details.**

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STI by PCR Test Codes
April 2024

Alverno Laboratories has transitioned molecular testing for several causative agents of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) to the Abbott Alinity m instruments. **See page 8 for details.**

Urine Electrophoresis Testing
April 2024

To ensure adequate specimen is received for urine electrophoresis testing, please review the following specimen guidelines. **See page 9 for details.**

JAK2 V617F Cascading Reflex Discontinuation
May 6, 2024

Quest Diagnostics has announced, effective May 6, 2024, they will discontinue offering test code 92472 – JAK2 V617F Cascading Reflex to CALR, JAK2 Exon 12, MPL, and CSF3R. The replacement offering will be Quest test 13010 – Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPN) Core Diagnostic Panel. **See page 10 for details.**

Good News from Microbiology

Alverno Laboratories is pleased to announce that our microbiology department is now LIVE with the BioFire TORCH. The TORCH will identify all yeast isolates and E. coli resistance markers from positive blood cultures. E. coli will continue to be identified by Bruker MALDI-TOF using the Sepsityper method.

Markers to be tested include:

1. CTX-M
2. KPC
3. IMP
4. NDM
5. VIM
6. OXA-48-like
7. mcr-1 (associated with elevated MICs to colistin)

Our LIS team is currently working on validating the remainder of the panel for those cultures that turn positive at <15 hours of incubation.

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Test Bulletin

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UTILIZATION GUIDES

Measles Testing
March 2024

Testing for suspected cases of measles in the Alverno Laboratories service area differs for Chicago vs. Non-Chicago residents. Regardless of patient's residence, it is recommended to order testing on patients who meet certain symptoms and exposure risk criteria. Please see below for details.

Who should be tested?
Measles testing should be performed on patients who:

- Meet the clinical case definition for measles:
    - Generalized maculopapular rash **AND**
    - Fever ≥ 101°F **AND**
    - Cough, coryza, or conjunctivitis **AND**
    - Within the 21 days prior to symptom onset, had an elevated risk of exposure to measles, including:
        - Had a known exposure to measles **OR**
        - Traveled internationally or to an area with known measles cases **OR**
        - Had contact with someone with a febrile rash illness, particularly if those individuals had traveled internationally or to an area with known measles cases

To avoid false positive results, testing is discouraged for patients with clinical presentation *inconsistent* with measles and no known increased risk of exposures to measles.

FOR INDIANA and NON-CHICAGO, ILLINOIS PATIENTS

What tests are recommended?
Providers pursuing measles testing should collect specimens for both PCR testing (either a nasopharyngeal or throat swab) and serology testing (IgG, IgM) **using the uncoded miscellaneous (UNCMS) code.**

PCR Testing
Quest Test Code: 39306
Quest Test Name: Measles (Rubeola) virus, Real Time PCR, Nasopharyngeal/Throat
Preferred Specimen: 1 nasopharyngeal (NP) or throat swab in liquid Amies elution swab (ESwab), VCM, V4 or equivalent (UTM)
Stability: 7 days refrigerated
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated

Serology Testing
Quest Test Code: 34166
Quest Test Name: Measles antibodies (IgG, IgM), Diagnostic
Preferred Specimen: 1 mL serum (minimum volume = 0.5 mL serum)
Stability: 7 days refrigerated
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated

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Test Bulletin

ALVERNO LABORATORIES

UTILIZATION GUIDES

FOR CHICAGO PATIENTS

For all private laboratories, the Chicago Department of Public Health is requesting that all measles diagnostic PCR testing occur at the IDPH-Chicago Laboratory.

What are the steps for measles testing for Chicago residents?

- Step 1:
  - Complete the CDPH Suspect Measles Report and Testing Request Form which can be located **here**.
    - This form is to report suspect cases and request testing for CHICAGO RESIDENTS ONLY.
    - An authorization number will be emailed if testing is approved.
- Step 2:
  - Promptly collect the specimen. However, do NOT submit the specimen without CDPH approval.
- Step 3:
  - If approved for testing, complete a paper IDPH Laboratory Requisition form with the **CDPH issued authorization number** obtained via Step 1 above.
  - Submit this form along with the specimen to IDPH at the address provided below.
  - **Failure to provide this completed paper IDPH requisition along with the specimen will result in a rejected and disposed specimen upon arrival to IDPH's laboratory.**

RT-PCR Testing

Preferred Specimen: Throat (oropharyngeal), nasal, or nasopharyngeal (NP) dacron- or nylon-tipped swab in viral transport media (VTM) or universal transport media (UTM). Please note, if collecting both a throat and NP swab, both swabs should be combined in the same vial of transport medium.
Specimen collection: Collect specimens within the acute phase of illness, preferably within 3 days of symptom onset
Stability: 8 days refrigerated
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated

Where should specimens be shipped?

Illinois Department of Public Health
Division of Laboratories
ATTN: Virology Lab
2121 W. Taylor St.
Chicago, IL 60612
Phone: 312-793-4760

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New Quest Test Updates
March 2024

The following test offerings are now available for ordering in Soft Lab and Atlas LIS systems:

- ENABC - Encephalitis Antibody Panel (CSF) – Quest code 12598
- CUP2 - Chronic Urticaria Panel 2 (Comprehensive) – Quest code 90123

These tests are replacements for previously discontinued offerings. Please check you local LIS system for availability.

New Offering	Discontinued Test
ENABC – Encephalitis Antibody Panel (CSF) **Quest code 12598**	EAPCS - Encephalitis Antibody Panel (CSF) **Quest code 91159**
CUP2 – Chronic Urticaria Panel 2 (Comprehensive) **Quest code 90123**	N/A

Fetal Fibronectin Discontinuation
April 1, 2024

Effective Monday, April 1, 2024, Quest Diagnostics will discontinue offering Fetal Fibronectin testing without a replacement offering. Clinics should refer patients to the local hospital for testing. A list of Franciscan hospitals that offer Fetal Fibronectin testing onsite can be reviewed below.

Inactivated Test: FFN – Fetal Fibronectin
New Test Code & Name: No replacement

Franciscan Hospitals offering testing:

- Franciscan Health Olympia Fields
- Franciscan Health Crown Point
- Franciscan Health Lafayette East (Amnisure testing)
- Franciscan Health Indianapolis

Quest Test Update
April 15, 2024

Quest Diagnostics has discontinued the following test effective April 15, 2024:
- FLC24 – Kappa/Lambda Light Chains, Total, w/Calculation, 24-Hour Urine

Inactivated Test: FLCRU – Kappa/Lambda Light Chains, Total, w/Calculation, 24-Hour Urine
New Test Code & Name: Kappa/Lambda Light Chains, Free with Ratio, Random Urine
Soft Code: KLLCU
Specimen Type/Sorce/Temp: 2mL random urine (24-hour urine, unpreserved also acceptable)
CPT: 83521 (x2)

Quest will be updating reference ranges for Hemoglobin A2, Quest code 511 and Soft code HGLA2. The new reference ranges will take effect April 15, 2024.

New Reference Ranges – Hemoglobin A2 (Quantitative)	
Age	**Reference Range**
<1 month	<1.0 %
1-3 months	<2.3 %
4-5 months	<2.5 %
6-11 months	<3.0 %
1-4 years	<3.2 %
≥5 years	2.0-3.2 %

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Cortisol Testing
April 2024

Alverno Laboratories offers two distinct test codes which both measure cortisol. These two tests should not be ordered at the same time. The table below has additional information. **Please note, if both tests are ordered at the same time CORRN will be automatically cancelled.**

Test Code	Test Name	Time of Sample Collection	Use	Note
CORRN	Cortisol, Random	Draw random serum (Gold SST)	Used as an aid in the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the adrenal gland	**Will be automatically cancelled if ordered at same time as DSTQ**
DSTQ	Dexamethasone Suppression Test	Draw serum (Gold SST) between 7:00 am - 9:00 am following the administration of 1mg Dexamethasone between the hours of 11:00 pm - midnight.	Used as an aid in the diagnosis of Cushing syndrome	

STI by PCR Test Codes
April 2024

Alverno Laboratories has transitioned molecular testing for several causative agents of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) to the Abbott Alinity m instruments. This qualitative assay is able to detect and differentiate up to 3 STIs in one sample: *Chlamydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, and Trichomonas vaginalis*. All LIS systems have now been transitioned to the new Alinity m platform, which involves a change in test codes.

Please note, the old test codes will be inactivated in both Soft and Atlas on April 15, 2024. It is essential that the new test codes are used.

Test Name	Targets	Old Soft Code	New Soft Code
CT, NG by PCR	CT, NG	GCCHP	STI2
CT, NG, TV by PCR	CT, NG, TV	N/A	STI3
Chlamydia trachomatis by PCR	CT	CHPRB	CTPCR
Neisseria gonorrhoeae by PCR	NG	GCPRB	NGPCR
Trichomonas vaginalis by PCR	TV	TRICP	TVPCR

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Urine Electrophoresis Testing
April 2024

To ensure adequate specimen is received for urine electrophoresis testing, please review the following specimen guidelines.

NOTE FOR 24h URINES: Please add the total volume electronically in your ordering system and physically write it on the specimens.

Immunotyping, Urine, 24 Hour or Random
Test Code: IEP-F
Minimum Volume: 15mL
Preferred Specimen: Please aliquot urine from 24h urine jug. Aliquot urine into one (1) FULL 10mL tube **and** one (1) 6mL no additive vacutainer tube (Urine Chemistry tube) and note the total volume.

Electrophoresis, Protein Urine 24 Hour
Test Code: UPEN
Minimum Volume: 15mL
Preferred Specimen: Please aliquot urine from 24h urine jug. Aliquot urine into one (1) FULL 10mL tube **and** one (1) 6mL no additive vacutainer tube (Urine Chemistry tube) and note the total volume.

Electrophoresis, Protein Urine Random
Test Code: UPNR1
Minimum Volume: 15mL
Preferred Specimen: Aliquot urine into one (1) FULL 10mL urine tube **and** one (1) 6mL no additive vacutainer tube (Urine Chemistry tube) and note the total volume.

Electrophoresis, Protein Urine Random, w/ Reflex Creatinine
Test Code: UPNR
Minimum Volume: 15mL
Preferred Specimen: Aliquot urine into one (1) FULL 10mL urine tube **and** one (1) 6mL no additive vacutainer tube (Urine Chemistry tube) and note the total volume.

JAK2 V617F Cascading Reflex Discontinuation
May 6, 2024

Quest Diagnostics has announced, effective May 6, 2024, they will discontinue offering test code 92472 – JAK2 V617F Cascading Reflex to CALR, JAK2 Exon 12, MPL, and CSF3R. The replacement offering will be Quest test 13010 – Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPN) Core Diagnostic Panel.

The MPN Core Diagnostic Panel is an evidence-based, disease targeted mutational analysis panel testing for disease-defining driver mutations in JAK2 V617F. JAK2 exon 12, CALR, and MPL, as part of the early evaluation for BCR-ABL1-negative myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) including polycythemia vera (PV), essential thrombocythemia (ET), and primary myelofibrosis (PMF), assists with diagnosis and is supported by medical guidelines.

Test details may be reviewed in the table below.

New Offering	Discontinued Test
JAKMN - MPN Panel w/JAK2, JAK2 Ex12, CALR, and MPL by NGS	JAKCR – JAK2 V617F Cascading Reflex to CALR, JAK2 Exon 12, MPL, and CSF3R
Test Components: JAK2 V617F Mutation JAK2 Exon 12 Mutation CALR Exon 9 Mutation MPL Exon 10 Mutation	**Test Components:** JAK2 V617F Mutation Reflexes: CALR Exon 9 JAK2 Exon 12 MPL codon 505 and 515 CSF3R 2 mutational hotspots
Sample Type: 4mL of whole blood or 3mL of bone marrow aspirate collected in EDTA (lavender-top) tube	**Sample Type:** 4mL of whole blood or 3mL of bone marrow aspirate collected in EDTA (lavender-top) tube
Transport Temp: Room temperature (preferred) Refrigerated (acceptable)	**Transport Temp and Stability:** Room temperature (preferred) 7 days Refrigerated (acceptable) 7 days
Testing Methodology: Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)	**Testing Methodology:** Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)-based DNA Sequencing