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.

Myoglobin, Urine: Supply Update
January 2025
The specimen requirements for Myoglobin, Urine performed by Quest Diagnostics have changed. Urine must be submitted in a myoglobin urine transport tube. **See page 3 for details.**

Soluble Transferrin Receptor: Specimen Update
January 2025
The specimen requirements for Soluble Transferrin Receptor performed by Quest Diagnostics have changed. Plasma collected in a EDTA (lavender-top) tube will no longer be accepted. **See page 3 for details.**

Yeast Susceptibility: Quest Update
January 2025
Effective 1/13/2025 Quest Diagnostics is discontinuing testing for individual anti-fungal susceptibilities. The recommended alternative is a comprehensive yeast susceptibility panel. **See page 4 for details.**

Toxicology Urine Drug Testing: Quest Update
February 2025
Effective January 6, 2025, the Quest Diagnostics test 91359 – Drug Test, General Toxicology, Urine is discontinued. The recommended replacement test is Quest test 11877 – Drug Monitoring Assess Panel, Volatiles, Urine. **See page 5 for details.**

Lead, Whole Blood: Specimen Update
February 2025
The manufacturer has discontinued the tan top EDTA tubes previously used for lead whole blood testing. The replacement tube is a 3 mL Royal Blue Trace Element K2 EDTA tube (Item #728652). **See page 5 for details.**

Influenza A and B Culture, Rapid Method: Quest Update
February 2025
Effective immediately, the Quest Diagnostics test for Influenza A and B Culture, Rapid Method is no longer interfaced with Alverno Laboratories' SoftLab LIS. If this test is desired, please order as UNCMS. **See page 6 for details.**

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Viral Respiratory, Rapid Culture with Reflex: Specimen Update
February 2025

The specimen requirements for Viral Respiratory, Rapid Culture with Reflex performed by Quest Diagnostics have changed. Specimens received in non-viral transport medium, including raw or unpreserved specimens will be rejected. **See page 6 for details.**

BIOFIRE FILMARRAY Gastrointestinal Panel: Updated Assay Limitation
March 2025

For qualitative detection of gastrointestinal pathogens by PCR, it is possible for increased incidences of false positive Norovirus GI/GII results. **See page 7 for details.**

HIV-1 Viral Load by PCR: Updated Assay Limitation
March 2025

For quantitative viral load testing of HIV-1 by PCR, it is possible for patients who have received certain gene therapies that utilize HIV-1 based lentiviral vectors to have a false detection of HIV-1. **See page 7 for details.**

Legionella Antigen Urine
March 2025

Testing for Legionella antigen in urine (Soft code LEGAG) should only be ordered on patients ≥ 21 years of age. **See page 7 for details.**

Type & Screen Follow-Up Testing
March 2025

If a blood bank antibody screen is resulted as positive, patients should be directed to their local hospital for any necessary follow-up testing. Patients should not return to a Patient Service Center for follow-up laboratory testing. **See page 8 for details.**

Client Supply Ordering
March 2025

Beginning in early March, Alverno will launch supply ordering via the online Client Community. **See page 8 for details.**

Test Bulletin

ALVERNO LABORATORIES

UTILIZATION GUIDES

Myoglobin, Urine: Supply Update
January 2025

The specimen requirements for Myoglobin, Urine performed by Quest Diagnostics have changed. Previously, urine could be submitted in a sterile transport tube. Effective 12/23/24, urine specimens must be submitted in a myoglobin urine transport tube. These specialized tubes are available to order via the Supply Request Form located at www.AlvernoLabs.com under the Quest Supplies section. Please see below for ordering information.

Soft Test Code: MYOUR
Quest Test Number: 13834
Test Name: Myoglobin, Urine
Item Number: 718206
Item Name: U87 VIAL MYOGLOBIN WHITE LABEL

Collect either a random or 24-hour urine (Refrigerate during collection). Immediately after collection, transfer 1 mL to a myoglobin urine transport tube. Ship frozen to the Central Laboratory.

Soluble Transferrin Receptor: Specimen Update
January 2025

The specimen requirements for Soluble Transferrin Receptor performed by Quest Diagnostics have changed. Plasma collected in a EDTA (lavender-top) tube will no longer be accepted. Please collect serum in a SST tube or plasma in a sodium or lithium heparin (green-top) tube only.

Soft Test Code: STRAR
Quest Test Number: 91031
Test Name: Soluble Transferrin Receptor
Preferred Specimen: Serum collected in a SST tube
Alternative Specimen: Plasma collected in a sodium or lithium heparin (green-top) tube
Rejection Criteria: Plasma collected in a EDTA (lavender-top) tube

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Yeast Susceptibility: Quest Update
January 2025

Effective 1/13/2025, Quest Diagnostics is discontinuing testing for individual anti-fungal susceptibilities. The recommended alternative is a comprehensive yeast susceptibility panel. Please see below for additional details.

Discontinued Tests		
Soft Test Code	**Quest Test Code**	**Test Name**
RYM5F	14172	Yeast Susceptibility MIC – 5-Flucytosine
RYMAB	14169	Yeast Susceptibility MIC – Amphotericin B
RYMFL	14170	Yeast Susceptibility MIC – Fluconazole
RYMIT	14171	Yeast Susceptibility MIC – Itraconazole
RYMMI	18778	Yeast Susceptibility MIC – Micafungin
RYMPO	18228	Yeast Susceptibility MIC – Posaconazole
RYMVO	14882	Yeast Susceptibility MIC – Voriconazole

Recommended Alternative
Soft Test Code: RYCOM
Quest Test Number: 17823
Test Name: Susceptibility, Yeast, Comprehensive Panel

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Toxicology Urine Drug Testing: Quest Update
February 2025

Effective January 6, 2025, the Quest Diagnostics test 91359 – Drug Test, General Toxicology, Urine is discontinued. The recommended replacement test is Quest test 11877 – Drug Monitoring Assess Panel, Volatiles, Urine. Both tests include acetone, ethanol, isopropanol, and methanol. There are no changes to specimen requirements or transport temperature. If this test is desired, please order as UNCMS.

Discontinued Quest Test Number/Name: 91359-Drug Test, General Toxicology, Urine
Discontinued Soft Code: TOXUR
Replacement Quest Test Number/Name: 11877- Drug Monitoring Assess Panel, Volatiles, Urine
Soft Code: UNCMS – Uncoded Quest Referred
Specimen Type/Source/Temp: 2 mL random urine collected in a plastic urine container. Send refrigerated.

CPT: 80320

Lead, Whole Blood: Specimen Update
February 2025

The manufacturer has discontinued the preferred tan top EDTA tubes used for lead whole blood testing. The replacement preferred tube will be a royal blue EDTA tube designed for trace element testing. Please see below for full details.

Soft Test Name: Lead, Whole Blood
Soft Test Code: LEAD2
Discontinued Item: 3 mL Tan EDTA for Lead Testing (Item #309445)
Replacement Item: 3 mL Royal Blue Trace Element K2 EDTA (Item #728652)

Influenza A and B Culture, Rapid Method: Quest Update
February 2025

Effective immediately, the Quest Diagnostics test for Influenza A and B Culture, Rapid Method is no longer interfaced with Alverno Laboratories' SoftLab LIS. If this test is desired, please order as UNCMS.

Quest Test Name: Influenza A and B Culture, Rapid Method
Quest Test Number: 35945
Inactivated Soft Code: INFVC
Soft Code: UNCMS – Uncoded Quest Referred
Specimen Type/Source/Temp: 3 mL nasopharyngeal aspirate/wash, bronchial lavage/wash, tracheal aspirate in sterile, leak-proof container or VCM tube or FDA approved equivalent viral transport media OR 1 throat or nasopharyngeal swab in VCM or FDA approved equivalent viral transport media. Send refrigerated

CPT: 87254 (x2)

Viral Respiratory, Rapid Culture with Reflex: Specimen Update
February 2025

The specimen requirements for Viral Respiratory, Rapid Culture with Reflex performed by Quest Diagnostics have changed. Specimens received in non-viral transport medium, including raw or unpreserved specimens will be rejected. Please see the online Collection Manual available at www.AlvernoLabs.com for full details.

Soft Test Code: VRESP
Quest Test Number: 14867
Test Name: Viral Respiratory, Rapid Culture with Reflex
Preferred Specimen: Nasopharyngeal aspirate/wash or nasopharyngeal swab collected in VCM (viral culture medium) or equivalent
Alternative Specimen: Throat swabs or bronchial lavage/wash in VCM or equivalent
Rejection Criteria: Specimens received in non-viral transport medium, including raw, unpreserved specimens

BIOFIRE FILMARRAY Gastrointestinal Panel: Updated Assay Limitation

March 2025

Alverno Laboratories performs qualitative detection for several gastrointestinal (GI) pathogens using the BIOMÉRIEUX BIOFIRE FILMARRAY Gastrointestinal Panel (Soft codes BFGI and BFGI2). BIOMÉRIEUX has updated the analytical and clinical specificity for Norovirus GI/GII based on recent investigations into reported false positive results. The clinical specificity (or negative percent agreement) decreased to 96.5% from 98.8% for this panel target. If Norovirus is the suspected causative agent, please consider ordering Norovirus 1 & 2 by PCR (Soft code NOROA) for verification.

HIV-1 Viral Load by PCR: Updated Assay Limitation

March 2025

Alverno Laboratories performs quantitative viral load testing for HIV-1 using the Abbott Alinity m HIV PCR assay (Soft code HIVAL). Abbott Molecular has extended the limitations of this assay for patients who have received gene therapies, such as chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cells or hematopoietic stem cells. These therapies may utilize HIV-1 based lentiviral vectors to deliver therapeutic genes to patients with hereditary or acquired diseases resulting in the Alinity m HIV-1 assay to falsely detect HIV-1 in these patients. The Alinity m HIV-1 assay is not intended to be used as a screening test for HIV-1.

Legionella Antigen Urine

March 2025

Testing for Legionella antigen in urine (Soft code LEGAG) is performed by the Microbiology Department at Alverno Laboratories using the TRU Legionella® rapid immunoassay. This test is not approved for use on specimens from patients less than 21 years of age. **Please only order this test for patients ≥ 21 years of age.**

Type & Screen Follow-Up Testing
March 2025

For ambulatory patients who have a positive antibody screen, please send patients directly to their local hospital for any necessary follow-up testing, including antibody identification. **Patients should not return to a Patient Service Center for follow-up laboratory testing.** If the testing is pre-natal in nature, direct patients to the hospital where they will deliver.

Antibody identification is not performed directly at the Central Laboratory. Rather, it is referred to Versiti. Additionally, it is important for a pregnant patient to have a blood bank history at the hospital where they will deliver to expedite preparation of blood products, if needed.

Client Supply Ordering
March 2025

Alverno is pleased to announce a better online supply ordering process for our valued clients. Beginning in early March, Alverno will launch supply ordering via the online Client Community. The Client Community portal can be accessed via our website at www.alvernolabs.com/client-community. Instructions will be posted once this functionality is live.