



To: All Clients, Laboratory Reference Centre
From: Dr. C. Hayward, Head, Regional Coagulation Laboratory, HRLMP
Dr. M. Crowther, Medical Director, HRLMP
CC: Mr. D. Boychuk, Director, Laboratory Services, Ms. T. DiFrancesco, Manager, Special Hematology, Ms. K. Moffat, Technical Specialist, Coagulation, Ms. B. Baltzer, Coordinator, Laboratory Reference Center.
Date: 2/23/2011
Re: Changes in the Special Coagulation Laboratory Test Menu

This memo is to inform you of two changes in the Special Coagulation laboratory test menu.

Discontinuation of Immunological testing for Factor XIII *subunit b*:

As of January 31, 2011, the Special Coagulation laboratory has discontinued offering immunological quantification of *subunit b* (nonenzymatic component) of factor XIII. Our laboratory will continue to offer a full panel workup for factor XIII that includes a factor XIII screen (urea clot solubility assay), factor XIII activity and immunological quantification of *subunit a* (enzymatic component) of factor XIII. An enzymatic subunit deficiency is the predominant cause of severe congenital factor XIII deficiency in Canada. The levels of *subunit a* are also reduced in many acquired factor XIII deficiencies and they are also reduced when *subunit b* is deficient.

Free Protein S - Change in Methodology and Gender Specific Reference Intervals:

Effective February 25, 2011, the method used to perform Free Protein S will change to a latex immunoturbidimetric procedure. With the method change, our laboratory will now be reporting gender specific reference intervals for Free Protein S.

Female: 0.62 – 1.44 U/mL

Male: 0.78 – 1.61 U/mL

There is no change in patient sample requirements or cost per test at this time.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes in the Special Coagulation laboratory test menu, please contact Karen Moffat, Technical Specialist, Coagulation at 905-521-2100 ext. 73124 or you can email Karen at moffat@hhsc.ca.

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