



TO: HHS and SJH Physicians and Laboratory Reference Center clients
FROM: Dr. Mark Crowther
CC: Brenda Rafter-Tadgell, Director, Laboratory Services,
Joan Wepler, Manager, Core Laboratory,
Barb Baltzer, LRC Coordinator, HRLMP
DATE: June 29, 2011
RE: **QUANTITATIVE DIMERS AVAILABLE – WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2011**

The HRLMP would like to announce that as of **Wednesday July 6, 2011**, the Core laboratory's will offer a single test for D-dimer testing. The quantitative D-dimer will be performed on both internal and referred in patient samples and will replace both of the current D-Dimer assays currently offered, the semi-quantitative D-dimer, which is used to rule out DIC (DDDIC) and the whole blood latex agglutination D-dimer (DDDVT or SimpliRED®), which is used to exclude DVT/PE in combination with a low pre-test probability.

The move to a single automated D-Dimer test will result in significant savings in technologist time as well as improve patient safety by avoiding any confusion as to which D-Dimer assay was requested by the physician.

The cut point for exclusion of DVT/PE for this assay, in combination with a low pre-test clinical probability is <500 µg/L FEU.

The mnemonic for the Quantitative D-dimer is **DDIMER**. The semi-quantitative D-dimer (mnemonic DDDIC) and the SimpliRED® (mnemonic DDDVT) will be inactivated on July 6, 2011.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other Core laboratory issue, please contact your site specific Core Laboratory Supervisor or Joan Wepler, Manager, Core Laboratory at wepler@hhsc.ca . If you're an external client, please contact Barb Baltzer, LRC Coordinator at baltzer@hhsc.ca .

Sincerely,

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Medicine, Hamilton Health Sciences &
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Director, HRLMP.