To All Medical Laboratory Users:

This edition of the Lab Med Update has the following articles:

- **Reminder for Coagulation testing in patients with high Hematocrits (>55), Pg. 1**
- **Fetal Fibronectin (IFN) assay no longer available, Pg. 2**
- **Chemistry Testing, Pg. 2**
- **DNA Extraction and Hold, Pg. 2**
- **Beta-hydroxybutyrate in house testing, Pg. 3**

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA HEALTH SYSTEM

MEDICAL LABORATORIES

Laboratory Medicine Update
October 2020

Reminder for Coagulation testing in patients with high Hematocrits (>55)

Elevated Hematocrits (>55) may cause inaccurate Coagulation results. The lab requires an adjusted blue top tube for these patients.
If a patient currently or has had a previously elevated Hematocrit, EPIC will now prompt the provider to call the lab to obtain an adjusted blue top tube PRIOR to drawing the blood sample.

See example below:

Adjusted blue top tube required for HCT >55.0. Call Core Laboratory (434-982-0470) to obtain adjusted tube BEFORE drawing patient's blood.

Acknowledged. Will call lab to obtain adjusted tube.

- **IF YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE(S) YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE CONTACT:**
- Terri Workman Proffitt
- 434-924-5198/989-5546

- **EMAIL:**
- Twp3q@virginia.edu

Core Laboratory: Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) assay no longer orderable

Due to low testing volumes, the Core Laboratory will no longer offer the Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) assay, LAB287. This is effective today, October 29, 2020.

Chemistry Testing

The Core Laboratory no longer offers chemistry testing on fluidsamples for hCG, CEA, lipase, lactic acid, uric acid, or alkaline phosphatase. Requests for these tests will be sent to a reference laboratory.

DNA Extraction and Hold

The activity of extracting and holding DNA from EDTA samples for future testing has moved from the Molecular Laboratory to the Genomics Laboratory. Samples will be stored for a period of 3 years and then discarded unless special arrangements are made with the laboratory ahead of time. Orders for DNA extract and hold should continue to be made in EPIC (no change). Requests to pull a stored DNA sample for either in-house or referral lab testing should now be made to the Genomics Lab via Outlook email (CL Medlab Genomics) **and** an order should be placed in Epic. Continue to send email notification with the required paperwork to the referral desk (CL Medlab Send-out Testing).

Beta-Hydroxybutyrate Testing in house

On October 27th, the Core Laboratory brought Beta-Hydroxybutyrate testing in-house. Samples will be processed 24 hours a day with a four hour turn-around time. Grossly hemolyzed samples will be rejected.

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