

Tests now "in house"

Test #678 Affirm VIII DNA Probe
The Affirm VP111 test detects Candida species, Gardnerella vaginalis, and Trichomonas vaginalis **and provides up to 60% greater sensitivity than the "Wet Mount" and conventional, clinical genital cultures.** It is unaffected by vaginal lubricants, menses, or the presence of mixed infections.

Specimen: Vaginal Fluid in "BD™ Affirm III Transport System". Call Supply to obtain transport tube and swab collection kit.

Storage: Ambient 72 hrs. Refrigerated 72 hrs.

Performed: Daily and reported within 24 hrs.

CPT code: 87480, 87510, 87660

Cost: \$75.00

Questions: Shari Talbert Microbiology Supervisor

Test #7240 Fetal Fibronectin

This test is indicated for females between 24-35 weeks gestation with symptoms of preterm labor. A negative result has a predictive value of >99% of no risk of preterm delivery in the following two week period. A positive result is indicative of disrupted or leaking amniotic membranes and increased risk of preterm delivery over the next two weeks. This test is also ordered on females with a history of preterm delivery.

Specimen: One (1) fFN tube with buffer. Call Supply to obtain fFN tube.

Storage: Refrigerated 3 days

Performed: Mon-Fri. Reported same day. Available STAT.

CPT code: 82731

Cost: \$150.00

Questions: Jan Nelson

Omaha Chemistry Supervisor

Test #9411 Testosterone, Bioavailable, and Sex Hormone Binding Globulin (includes Total Testosterone), Adult Male

Testosterone in blood is bound to sex hormone binding globulin, bound to albumin and as free (unbound) fractions. The "free testosterone" assay determines only the unbound fraction. The "bioavailable" assay determines the fractions of free and albumin bound. Both the free and albumin bound testosterone are available to cell receptors and hence the term, "bioavailable".

Specimen: 1.0 mL (0.5 mL) Serum or Heparinized Plasma

Storage: Refrigerated 1 week

Performed: Tues, Thurs, and Sat. Reported same day.

CPT code: 84403, 84270

Cost: \$25.00

Test #2743 Sex Hormone Binding Globulin
Specimen: 1.0 mL (0.5 mL) Serum or Heparinized Plasma
Storage: Refrigerated 1 week
Performed: Tues, Thurs, and Sat. Reported same day of testing.
CPT code: 84270
Cost: \$12.50
Questions: Jan Nelson
Omaha Chemistry Supervisor

New Test Numbers

Test # 9410 Ionized Calcium, Serum
Specimen: 3.0 mL - 5.0 mL Serum Separator Tube, UNOPENED. Centrifuge within 1 hr. of collection
Storage: Refrigerated 7 days. Ambient or Frozen unacceptable .

Performed ARUP: Sun-Sat.; Reported 2-4 days

CPT code: 82330

Cost: \$28.00

Note: Test #936 for Ionized Calcium is now discontinued

Test # 8040 Apolipoprotein A1
Specimen: 1.0 mL (0.5 mL) Serum. Fasting specimen recommended. Separate serum from cells ASAP.
Note: This protein is found in high density lipoprotein.
Storage: Refrigerated 8 days. Frozen 3 months.
Performed ARUP: Sun-Sat.; Reported 2-4 days
CPT code: 82172
Cost: \$40.00
Note: Test #4847 for Apolipoprotein A1 is now discontinued

Test # 8041 Apolipoprotein B
Specimen: 1.0 mL (0.5 mL) Serum. Fasting specimen recommended. Separate serum from cells ASAP.
Note: This protein is found in low density lipoprotein.
Storage: Refrigerated 8 days. Frozen 3 months.
Performed ARUP: Sun-Sat.; Reported 2-4 days
CPT code: 82172
Cost: \$40.00
Note: Test #4850 for Apolipoprotein B is now discontinued

Test # 8042 Apolipoproteins B/A with Ratio
Specimen: 1.0 mL (0.5 mL) Serum. Fasting specimen recommended. Separate serum from cells ASAP.

Note: This ratio can provide an estimate of the relative risk for coronary atherosclerotic disease.
Storage: Refrigerated 8 days. Frozen 3 months.
Performed ARUP: Sun-Sat.; Reported 2-4 days
CPT code: 82172 x 2
Cost: \$60.00
Note: **Test #4853 for Apolipoprotein B/A with Ratio is now discontinued**

Test # 8043 Lipoprotein (a)
Specimen: 1.0 mL (0.5 mL) Serum or EDTA, Heparinized, or K2EDTA Plasma. Separate serum or plasma from cells ASAP.
Storage: Refrigerated 14 days. Frozen 3 months.
Performed ARUP: Sun-Sat.; Reported 2-4 days
CPT code: 83695
Cost: \$45.00
Note: **Test #7472 for Lipoprotein (a) is now discontinued**

Test Updates

Test #7680 HPV DNA by PCR may now be performed on tissue samples as well as the liquid PAP vial. These specimens are usually cervical biopsies.

Test #603 URINE CULTURE will now only require CPT code 87086 rather than two codes, 87088 and 87086.

Test #202 CBC with a differential **Test #4201 CBC without a differential**

The Federal Government is concerned about the possibility of "fraud and abuse" with regards to testing being performed that is not ordered. A CBC is available with and without a Differential (absolute numbers and percentages of WBC). Both tests are listed on the requisition and to insure the correct test is ordered, check the appropriate test. To avoid confusion, please do not write "CBC" on the requisition.

Questions: Cassy Richards
Omaha Hematology Supervisor

Confidentiality/Special Reporting Packet

Additional instructions have been included in the "Confidentiality/Special Reporting Packet" that we offer to our clients when a patient wants to use an alias to insure identity remains unknown or uses his/her legal name, but wants results to be viewed by only a specified provider.

1. When any communicable disease (HIV, Hepatitis, Chlamydia/Gonorrhea, HSV) or antimicrobial resistant organism is identified, test results must be reported to the State Health Department. The client will be contacted for the patient's legal name, date of birth, gender, and address.
2. It is not acceptable for an employee of the client to order a confidential test on herself/himself and receive results by phone.

Semen Analysis Kits

We have compiled "Semen Analysis Kits" which are available to clients upon request. The kit contains a plastic container, "Patient Instructions for Semen Collection for Fertility" and "Information for Semen Analysis Test" form. To expedite testing, we ask the

"information for Semen Analysis Test" form be completed, and the specimen labeled before being delivered to the laboratory. The specimen must be delivered to the laboratory within 30 minutes of collection. Contact Supply to obtain the kit.

Chlamydia/Gonorrhea Testing for Males

Screening for sexually transmitted diseases, Chlamydia and Gonorrhea, can be done via a genital swab, liquid based PAP or a urine specimen. Test #2182 Chlamydia/GC PCR, Urine is the specimen of choice for males or very young patients. The ease of collection helps remove reluctance to test on males behalf. Sensitivity and Specificity are greater than 95% for urine specimens, and our positive rates for 2009 averaged 9.3% and 1.1% for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea, respectively, compared to 6.0% and 0.6% for genital swab specimens. A sterile, clean catch is preferred for the specimen, and the sample is then transferred to a special tube with buffer when received at our laboratory. Testing is performed daily, and all positive results are repeated before reported.

**Submitted by Gregory Post, Ph.D.
Director of Clinical Services**

Information Technology Capabilities

With the emergence of Electronic Medical Records (EMR) and Practice Management Software, there has been a growing demand for I.T. solutions that provide clinics and hospitals with paperless results. Interfaces appear to be the way of the future, and Physicians Laboratory is prepared to assist our clients with their progressive technological needs.

Physicians Laboratory Services currently offers:

- Result delivery options via fax, PC system or interface.
- Direct access to patient results via our Website.
- In-house interface engine allows for rapid deployment of order and result interfaces to your EMR or LIS system.

If you are interested in obtaining "online access" to results or would like to pursue an interfacing project, contact Kacey Moreland at 402 731-4145 or 1-800-642-1117.

Ruth Ann Bartels, MT(ASCP) Retires

On April 29, our Director of Professional Services, Ruth Ann Bartels retired after 25 years of service to Physicians Laboratory Services. She was a valuable asset to our company and will be missed.

If you wish to send a card or note to Ruth Ann, please send to 4840 F St, Omaha, NE 68117, and we will see she receives it.

Marketing and Consulting Staffs

Kacey Moreland, MBA, is Director of Marketing and has assumed Ruth Ann's duties. Angie Wilcoxson has been added to our Marketing Staff. Angie is a Medical Technologist, as are Bev, Diana and Patti. Our Marketing and Consulting Staffs are available for questions or concerns. Thank you for selecting PLS to meet your testing needs.

Kacey Moreland	402 731-4145 or 1- 800-642-1117
Bev Ruch	Marketing 402 660-6760
Angie Wilcoxson	Marketing 402 660-4858
Diana Canine	Consultant 402 690-7699
Patti Seidel	Consultant 402 690-9802