

Labview Quarterly

FOR CLIENTS OF PARKVIEW HEALTH LABORATORIES

February 2010

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TSH Generations

Due to a recommendation from the manufacturer, the lower reportable limit for the TSH (2nd generation) test will be changed. Beginning 12-22-09 the lower reportable limit will change from 0.01 uIU/mL to 0.04 uIU/mL. A 3rd generation assay is now being offered by Parkview Laboratories with a reportable limit of 0.01 uIU/mL. Requests for the 3rd generation assay should be made as TSH, 3rd generation or TSH, Ultrasensitive. Call Dr. Blandine Bustamante, Medical Director, at 373-3658 or Lisa Daniel, Technical Manager, at 373-3668 with questions.

Parkview Health is in the United Healthcare Lab Network!

We would like to take a moment to remind you that Parkview Health Laboratories is a contracted provider in the United HealthCare network. Our contract with United HealthCare as a regional provider in their network is not impacted by any agreements UHC may have with national laboratories. Patients with United HealthCare coverage will continue to receive their full benefits when utilizing Parkview Health Laboratories.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Parkview Health Laboratories Billing Department at 260-373-9420.

Parkview Health Laboratories (PHL) is dedicated to providing optimal laboratory services for our clients and their patients.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: DIAGNOSIS

Please be sure that every lab order/requisition that is generated by your office includes a diagnosis or reason(s) for testing. This will help ensure that your staff will not be bothered later to provide the missing information to the lab. Thank you.

**Central Laboratory
Parkview Hospital
Parkview Huntington Hospital
Parkview Whitley Hospital
Parkview North Hospital
Parkview Noble Hospital
And Parkview Lagrange Hospital**

 **PARKVIEW**
HEALTH LABORATORIES

Stool Collections

Parkview Health Laboratories (PHL) is dedicated to providing optimal laboratory services for our clients and their patients. In order for PHL to provide excellent service, it is imperative that our clients are educated on the importance of proper specimen collection in the correct collection media. Below you will find collection information that is useful when stool samples are required for testing.

When collecting a stool specimen for Ova and Parasites (O&P) testing, please utilize the multi-colored collection kit, formulated specially for O&P testing. This kit contains a white capped (clean) vial, a pink (10% formalin fixative) vial, and the blue (Z-PVA fixative) vial. The O&P kit should only be used when all three vials are submitted to the laboratory along with a physicians' order for an Ova and Parasite Microscopic Exam, Cryptosporidium EIA, or Giardia EIA.

When collecting stool specimens for C-Diff testing, please utilize the (non-sterile) yellow capped specimen container, or (sterile) blue capped specimen container. Please do not separate and use the clear top collection container within the O&P kits.

When collecting a stool specimen to be tested for a Stool Culture, please use the Carey Blair swab. This swab has a red cap with the wording "Carey Blair" printed horizontally at the top of the swab. Only a small (pea size) amount of fecal matter collected from the tip of the swab is necessary. Stool should not be poured or forced into the shaft of the swab container.

Please refer to the attached Laboratory Media Collection Picture Guide for collection details. If you would like additional guides, please contact Lee Cutting at 260-373-9404, or by email at lee.cutting@parkview.com

Please feel free to contact PHL's Client Response Center at 260-373-9400, with any questions or concerns you may have.

Do you order screening PSAs on your Medicare patients?

If so, please always include V76.44 (Prostate cancer screening) as a diagnosis on your order. The lab often receives orders for PSAs and the orders do not include any reason for this testing. When this occurs, your patient is asked to sign an ABN notifying him that his PSA won't be covered by Medicare. Your patient is told that he will be billed for this non-covered testing.

Please help us ensure that your Medicare patients receive the benefits to which they are entitled for annual screening PSAs.