

## CLIENT UPDATE

**EFFECTIVE AT MIDNIGHT JULY 9, 2007**

Salem Hospital Regional Laboratory's Chemistry Department is pleased to announce the implementation of new high volume Chemistry/Immunochemistry analyzers, the Roche Cobas 6000. As a result of this conversion, **there will be reference ranges changes for most analytes.** The appropriate reference range will be noted on all laboratory reports. See below for additional important information:

### **New Specimen Requirements:**

Test	Specimen Requirement	Old Specimen Requirement
Ammonia	EDTA plasma (4 mL lavender tube)-collect on ice, separate from cells within 30 minutes. Refrigerate up to 2 hours	Heparinized plasma
Homocysteine	Lithium Heparin Plasma (4.5 mL green top tube) Keep on ice and separate from cells within 1 hour.	EDTA Plasma
**NTpro-BNP	Lithium Heparin plasma (4.5 mL green top tube) or serum	EDTA Plasma for BNP
Vancomycin	Serum (7.0 mL plain red top or 5 mL gold top serum separator tube).	Serum or heparinized plasma

### **Rebaselining (Parallel Testing)**

Test	Rebaselining Process	Duration
Pro-BNP & BNP	Both methods will be run automatically for 7 days. BNP panel is the EPIC order name. After 7 days, only pro-BNP will be available.	Until July 16, 2007
CEA	Must be ordered. Order CEA, rebaseline	90 days until October 10, 2007
PSA, Diagnostic	Must be ordered. Order PSA, rebaseline, diagnostic.	90 days until October 10, 2007
PSA, Screening	Must be ordered. Order, PSA, rebaseline, screening	90 days until October 10, 2007
PSA, Free and Total	Must be ordered. Order PSA, Fr and Tot, rebaseline	90 days until October 10, 2007

### **Other Significant Changes:**

Test	Change
C Reactive Protein (CRP)	Available 7 days a week rather than Monday-Friday. Also available STAT. Reference Range remains at <0.5 mg/dl.
Highly Sensitive CRP (hsCRP)	Reported in tertiles of risk as the reference intervals, and in mg/L instead of mg/dL. Used in assessing cardiac risk. For results consistently above 3.0 mg/L, the patient should be assessed for other possible causes of inflammation.
T-Uptake	Reported as TBI (Thyroxine Binding index rather than a percentage. Used in conjunction with T4 to calculate the Free Thyroxine Index (FTI) and should not be ordered alone.
Methadone	Performed in house for the Maternal Child Drug Screen
Lidocaine	Sent to Reference Laboratory. Still available stat, but turn around time will be somewhat longer.
Troponin T	Method change from Troponin I, including new reference range. See separate detailed materials.
**Pro-BNP	Method change from BNP including different cut points. See separate detailed materials. From 7/10/07-7/15/2007 both an EDTA tube and a Lithium Heparin tube are required. Beginning 7/16/07, only a Lithium Heparin tube is required. (rebaselining)

For additional information or questions, please contact

Larry Konick MD  
 Pathologist  
 503-561-5350

Brenda Crawford M.T., SC (ASCP)  
 Senior Chemistry Specialist  
 503-561-6034