

CKMB – Discontinuation

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In an article in the journal *Circulation* titled, “Requiem for a Heavyweight – The Demise of Creatine-Kinase MB” (1), Drs. Saenger and Jaffe address the removal of CK-MB from the cardiac biomarker panel at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester MN . They conclude:

“Several other institutions have taken similar actions without any discernible negative effects on clinical care. We suspect that clinical care would be simplified and improved if this step were taken more widely because, as we have attempted to underscore above, the clinical issues that we need to address are best addressed by the use of troponin, and try as we might, it has been hard to find situations in which CK-MB adds substantially. It adds only cost and, from our perspective, confusion. Accordingly, after >10 years of experience using troponin in the clinical arena, it is time for clinicians to learn how to use cardiac troponin properly and, in doing so, let our old friend CK-MB rest.”

After consulting with the Division of Cardiology and others at UVMHC, the laboratory at UVMHC discontinued CK-MB testing on May 24, 2017.

In agreement with UVMHC, Porter Medical Center will discontinue CKMB testing as of August 1, 2018.

If you have any questions concerning this change, please contact Dr. Maureen Harmon (Maureen.Harmon@UVMHealth.org) in the Laboratory.

REFERENCE: 1. Saenger AK, Jaffe AS. Requiem for a heavyweight: the demise of creatine kinase-MB. *Circulation* 2008; 118:2200.