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DATE: September 28, 2016
TO: UCH Medical Staff, Housestaff, Patient Care Centers, and Outpatient Clinics
FROM: Kathleen G. Beavis, MD, Interim Director of Laboratories and
Director, Clinical Microbiology and Immunology Laboratories
RE: Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Diagnostic Service Testing Update

The HIV Diagnostic Service is now consolidated in the Microbiology/Immunology Laboratories and as of September 28, 2016 will include the following elements for patients two years and older:

1. Patient sample, repeatedly reactive by HIV 1/2 Antibody Antigen Screen will have the following reflex testing performed on site (if sufficient volume of specimen is received):
 - a. HIV-1/HIV-2 supplemental testing
 - b. HIV-1 quantitative viral load performed within three days. If expedited testing is needed in the case of a pregnant woman, contact Microbiology Laboratory at 773-702-6133.

This will eliminate the current need for an add-on order and additional specimen, and will bring our testing into alignment with CDC recommendations for confirmatory testing for the diagnosis of HIV infection.

Ordering information:

The test name has been updated to "**HIV 1/2 Antibody Antigen Screen with reflex**".

The new EPIC order code is: **HIVSC**.

For samples repeatedly reactive by initial testing, reflex orders for supplemental testing and viral load will be added automatically.

Specimen and transport requirements:

Testing is performed on **plasma** only. Collect 8 – 10 mL of whole blood in a 10 ml lavender-top Vacutainer (EDTA) tube to ensure there is sufficient residual sample for supplemental testing without a subsequent venipuncture.

Methodology, Testing Schedule, and Reporting

- HIV 1/2 Antibody Antigen Screen is performed by MultiplexFlow Immunoassay on the BioPlex instrument Monday – Saturday. Results are reported as "Non-Reactive" or "Repeatedly reactive, referred for supplemental testing".
- Supplemental testing is performed in house by immunochromatographic assay on the Geenius HIV 1/2 for the confirmation and differentiation of individual antibodies to HIV Types 1 and 2 and will be performed the same day. Results are reported as: "Negative", "Positive" or "Indeterminate".
- Samples that test positive for HIV-2 will be submitted to Mayo Medical Laboratories for molecular testing
- Viral load testing is performed using a real-time PCR assay from Roche Molecular Systems, Inc., on the Roche COBAS AmpliPrep/COBAS TaqMan, and testing is performed 3 times/week. Positive results are reported with quantitation in IU/mL.

Note:

If you have any questions, please contact Ana Flores (773-795-3807), Chief Technologist or Vera Tesic, MD, Assistant Director, Clinical Microbiology/Immunology Laboratory at 773-702-2677.