



TO: Medical Staff, House Staff, Patient Care Centers,
Outpatient Clinics and UC Med Labs Clients

FROM: Krzysztof Mikrut, B.S., MT (ASCP)
Technical Director, Coagulation Laboratory

Jonathan L. Miller, MD. Ph.D.
Medical Director, Coagulation Laboratory

DATE: April 20, 2017

RE: Factor XIII Assay and Fondaparinux Level Monitoring

The Coagulation Laboratory currently performs Factor XIII testing qualitatively by urea clot solubility. While capable of detecting severe Factor XIII deficiency, the urea clot solubility test is a qualitative test that does not yield an actual Factor XIII level. A chromogenic assay for functional Factor XIII able to quantitate Factor XIII activity as low as 5% of normal is now available through our reference laboratory. Accordingly, orders placed in EPIC for Factor XIII will now become send-out tests using this improved methodology. Estimated turn-around time from the reference laboratory is one week.

Following the introduction into clinical usage of oral anticoagulant drugs such as the direct Factor Xa inhibitors, requests for therapeutic drug monitoring of the parenterally administered, indirect Factor Xa inhibitor Fondaparinux (Arixtra) have become quite infrequent. In accordance with our institutional hematology specialists, the Coagulation Laboratory will no longer perform Fondaparinux therapeutic drug monitoring in-house. Orders for such testing will continue to be available through EPIC, but will henceforth become send-out tests to a reference laboratory.

Please contact the Medical Director of the Coagulation Laboratory, Dr. Jonathan Miller (2-1878), or the Technical Director of the Coagulation Laboratory, Mr. Krys Mikrut (2-6774), with any questions concerning these changes.