

May 23, 2018

To: All NorthShore Staff and Care Providers

Subject: Change in Primary Chemistry Collection Tube – Please Read Completely For Details

On June 4, 2018 the primary specimen container for chemistry assays will be changing for outpatient laboratory orders from a Mint Green Top Plasma Separator Tube (PST) to a Gold Top Serum Separator Tube (SST). This change is being made as part of a NorthShore 20/20 aligned initiative to improve the efficiency and quality of specimen collection throughout the system. **Normal processing requirements of serum tubes should be followed.** Inpatient and Kellogg Cancer Center laboratory orders will remain on PST due to the improved turn-around times allowed with this specimen type. No major reference range modifications will accompany this change.

Orders received by the laboratory information system (SoftLab) after the above date will correctly display which specimen container to use. As always, please draw a tube for ***each and every*** label that you receive or there is a significant risk that all ordered tests will not be analyzed and reported. The correct specimen container type will be printed on the label for your information (see attached sheet for examples).

Thank you for your help and patience with this change. Please contact the laboratory at 847.570.2780 with any questions or concerns.

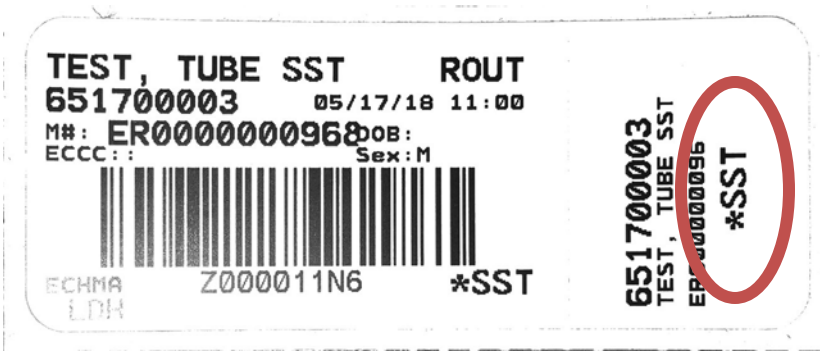
Sincerely,

Karen L. Kaul, MD, PhD  
Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Hong Kee Lee, PhD, DABCC  
Division Director of Clinical Pathology

Robert Benirschke, PhD, DABCC  
Co-Director of Evanston Core Laboratory

**Default Specimen Container for Outpatient Laboratories:**



**Default Specimen Container for Inpatient and Kellogg Cancer Center Laboratories:**

