



MEDICINE *of* THE HIGHEST ORDER

To: URMIC Clinicians

From: Richard Burack, MD PhD
Director, Hematopathology Section

Re: New Methodology for CSF Electrophoresis.

Date: 08/22/2011

A new method for detection of CSF oligoclonal bands, isoelectric focusing (IEF), is being validated at URMIC Labs - Strong Memorial Hospital. In contrast to the current methods, this new method will comply with the 2005 guidelines provided by the "Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Clinics." (Archive of Neurology, Vol 62, 865-870).

The current semi-quantitative electrophoretic method is no longer being offered and qualitative IEF results are now being reported. We target that the IEF method will be performed at SMH by October 2011. In the interim, all requests will be performed by IEF at our reference laboratory (ARUP). There are no changes in specimen collection requirements. The report will compare IEF studies of both CSF and Serum. Two or more CSF bands, without corresponding bands in the serum specimen, will be reported as a positive result.

Any questions can be directed to Dr. Burack @ 273-1885 or
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