



TO: Clients of URMCLabs

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SUBJECT: Change in Coagulation Test Ordering

DATE: 6/8/2010

On 6/15/2010, the Strong Memorial Hospital Clinical Laboratories will start offering several new special coagulation profiles along with a test interpretation by a laboratory physician. These special coagulation profiles will group related tests of each disorder to be done collectively on an algorithm pattern. Some of these profiles will be performed completely, such as von Willebrand disease (vWD), while others (e.g. prolonged PT or PTT) may not be performed completely and testing will stop once the abnormality has been identified. Laboratory charges will also be billed accordingly.

The main purpose of these new special coagulation profiles is to perform the most appropriate and directed tests that are related to a specific disorder, to eliminate some unnecessary tests, reduce laboratory costs, and to provide an interpretation that will, after all, improve patient management. These interpretations will be generated by a special coagulation laboratory medicine resident reviewing patients' records available in our CIS system (laboratory tests, medical history, dictated reports, etc.) and coordinating them with the laboratory findings. Dr. Refaai, the special coagulation medical director, will then verify these interpretations and sign them out. These interpretations will be available in all the electronic receiving systems as well as mailed to the ordering provider in outpatient settings.

Individual special coagulation tests will still be available. Unless the "Interpretation is not required" box is checked, a test interpretation will be provided with these special coagulation tests. (except for PT and PTT screening tests).

The tube requirement for the special coagulation profiles is indicated on the requisition (no changes in tube requirement is needed for individual tests).

The new profiles are: DIC Profile, Hemophilia Profile, Hypercoagulation Study Profile, Lupus Study Profile, Prolonged PT Profile, Prolonged PTT Profile, PT Mixing Study Profile, PTT Mixing Study Profile, von Willebrand Study Profile.

For any further questions please feel free to contact us.