

**To:** Medical Staff & Clients of URMCLabs

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**Re:** ***New Laboratory Test for Determining Patient Response to Effient®*** (prasugral)

**Date:** October 20, 2010

The Strong Memorial Hospital Clinical Laboratory is announcing the availability of testing for platelet function in response to the recently FDA approved antiplatelet agent Effient (prasugral). Effient, which is one of three available thienopyridines including Ticlid (ticlopidine) and Plavix (clopidogrel), affects platelet function by inhibiting P2Y12 receptors. As with Plavix, the effect of Effient on platelet function can be tested using the VerifyNow P2Y12 Assay. Whole blood is used for the evaluation of platelet function in patients on Effient. This test may benefit patients on daily Effient therapy to confirm platelet function inhibition in patients undergoing treatment for acute coronary syndromes and/or percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI).

### Results Reporting

VerifyNow P2Y12 test results are reported in percent inhibition of platelet function. Results may be affected by the following:

- Low hematocrit values or low platelet count may render testing invalid.
- GP IIb/IIIa inhibitors – ReoPro®, Aggrastat®, and Integrilin®. Patients who have received Aggrastat or Integrilin within two days or ReoPro within two weeks should **not** be tested.

This test can be ordered via the laboratory mnemonic PPIA (P2Y12 platelet inhibition assay). **Testing should be performed within 3 hours of blood draw** and is usually completed within 45 minutes. **A special collection tube is required:**

1. SMH - call lab at 275-0561 to obtain the special blue top tube.
2. HH – call lab at 341-6469 to obtain the special blue top tube.
3. Outpatients – appropriate collection is available at all of our PSC sites.

This test and the VerifyNow Aspirin assay will be offered daily from 7 am to 9 pm seven days a week. Should you have any questions about the assay please contact us using the email or telephone numbers listed above. In emergencies or off hours, page the laboratory medicine resident on-call.