



Daniel H. Ryan, MD  
*Professor and Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*

Neil Blumberg, MD  
*Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*  
*Director of URMCLaboratories*

Brendan Boyce, MD  
*Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*  
*Director of Anatomic Pathology*

**TO:** Clients of URMCLabs

**FROM:** Tai C. Kwong, Ph.D.  
Director, Strong Memorial Hospital Automated Laboratory  
Phone: (585) 275-5654  
E-Mail: [Tai\\_Kwong@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Tai_Kwong@URMC.Rochester.edu)

Julietta Fiscella, M.D.  
Associate Director, Highland Hospital Clinical Laboratories  
Phone: (585) 341-6597  
E-Mail: [Julietta\\_Fiscella@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Julietta_Fiscella@URMC.Rochester.edu)

**SUBJECT:** Transition to New Roche Diagnostics Instrumentation

**DATE:** September 23, 2009

At 12:00pm on Wednesday September 23, 2009, URMCLabs will begin the first stage of moving all chemistry testing to new instruments made by Roche Diagnostics. This initial phase will primarily involve tests seen in our basic and comprehensive metabolic profiles, therapeutic drugs, and urine drugs of abuse. The crossover will begin at Strong Memorial Hospital on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, quickly followed by Highland Hospital the week after on Tuesday September 29<sup>th</sup>. This transition is the first step in a more comprehensive plan that will also soon include our cardiac markers and immunoassay tests (i.e. – TSH, PSA, CEA, etc).

There will be several notable changes associated with the first stage. Below is a brief description of the updates:

- C-Reactive Protein (CRP). Two CRP tests will be offered: CRP for monitoring of inflammatory processes and HS-CRP for assessing cardiovascular risk. These tests will replace the current WRCRP option on all requisitions moving forward. During the transition, all WRCRP requests will be ordered as HSCRIP.
- Non-HDL Cholesterol (calculated) has been added to the lipid profile. It is the sum of VLDL and LDL cholesterol, and is calculated as total cholesterol minus HDL cholesterol.
- Reference ranges have been evaluated, and for some of our analytes, these ranges have changed. We have taken this opportunity to standardize our ranges so that they are identical at each site. **Attached we have included spreadsheets for both SMH and HH that list both the current and new ranges by analyte.**

We understand that changes of this magnitude, particularly where the reference ranges are significantly different, may cause an inconvenience to our providers. Our goal at the end of this transition is to deliver consistent results regardless of where testing is performed within our laboratory system. We will make every effort to ensure that patient care is not disrupted during this time period.

Please direct any questions concerning this announcement to either Dr. Tai Kwong or Dr. Julietta Fiscella via the methods listed above.