



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: Barbara A. Meiklejohn
Chief Supervisor, Automated Laboratory
Phone: (585) 275-2435
E-Mail: Barbara_Meiklejohn@URMC.Rochester.edu

SUBJECT: Change in Hematology Analyzer Methodology

DATE: May 7, 2009

On Sunday May 10, 2009, URMCLabs at Strong Memorial Hospital will begin moving all hematology cell counting tests to new instruments made by Sysmex America. These tests include the CBC (complete blood count) profile, automated differential, and reticulocyte count. **The current and new adult ranges may be referenced in the attached chart.** Pediatric ranges will not change, and the laboratory report will include a comment for 30 days that new adult reference ranges are in effect. The red cell indices MCH (mean corpuscular hemoglobin) and MCHC (mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration) will no longer be reported as part of the CBC under the new methodology.

We understand that changes of this magnitude, particularly where the reference ranges are significantly different, are a major challenge to our providers. We will make every effort to make this transition with as little disruption to patient care as possible. URMCLabs at Highland Hospital will also be changing to the same methodology and instruments on Wednesday May 13, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact Automated Labs Chief Supervisor Barbara A. Meiklejohn via the methods listed above.