

UNIVERSITY OF
ROCHESTER
MEDICAL CENTER

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

TO: All Clients of Strong Memorial Hospital Clinical Laboratories
FROM: Strong Memorial Hospital Clinical Laboratories
RE: Changes in Cardiac Markers, Fertility Hormones, Digoxin, intact PTH & HCG
DATE: June 15, 2006

At 12:01 am on Tuesday, June 27, 2006, the SMH Clinical Laboratories will complete the move of immunoassay tests to new instruments made by Bayer Diagnostics. The remaining tests are the Cardiac Markers (ultra Troponin I, BNP, and CK-MB); the Fertility Hormones (Estradiol, Progesterone, LH, FSH, Prolactin and Testosterone), Digoxin, intact PTH, and HCG. ***For this stage, there are collection tube changes for PTH AND BNP: both will change from an SST to a LAVENDAR TOP tube***

The Cardiac Markers represent a new group of tests that are changes from our previous menu. The ultra Troponin I will replace Troponin T, BNP will take the place of N-Terminal Pro-BNP, and CK-MB enzymatic assay will be changed to the CK-MB mass assay. For the Troponin test change-over, the laboratory will perform parallel-testing of the current Troponin T and the new Troponin I Ultra assays for 60 days. During this period, laboratory reports will present results of both Troponin assays along with their respective reference ranges.

For the Fertility Hormones, intact PTH, and HCG tests; there will be changes in the reference ranges. The current and new ranges have been included (back) for your review. The laboratory report will indicate with a comment for 30 days that new reference ranges are in effect.

We understand that changes of this magnitude---particularly where new tests are involved and reference ranges are significantly different---are a major inconvenience to our providers. The laboratory will make every effort to make this transition with as little disruption to patient care as possible. A benefit of this undertaking is that Strong Laboratory will join the other major Rochester area hospital laboratories to have immunoassays standardized on the same methodologies and instruments.

If you have any questions concerning these changes, please contact one of our Client Services representatives at 275-8181.