

## Change to Lyme Serology testing

To: Clients of UR Medicine Labs

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Due to an abrupt discontinuation of test kits used for Lyme antibody screening by the manufacturer, URMCL Serology Lab is changing to a single assay Lyme testing model as described in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*<sup>1</sup>. Starting 10/5/2016, Lyme serologies will be performed using a C6 Peptide Antibody assay (Immunetics, Inc., Boston, MA); the C6 peptide is derived from a protein specific to *Borrelia*. This test has been used as the confirmatory test in our Lyme disease algorithm for the past 3 years. The C6 Peptide Antibody assay has demonstrated high sensitivity and specificity for the detection of infections caused by *Borrelia burgdorferi* – the causative agent in Lyme disease – which makes it an appropriate stand-alone test for Lyme disease.

<sup>1</sup> Wormser, G., Schriefer, M., Aguero-Rosenfeld, M., Levin, A., Steere, A., Nadelman, R., Nowakowski, M., Marques, A., Johnson, B. and Dumler, J. (2011) Single-tier testing with the C6 peptide ELISA kit compared with two-tiered testing for Lyme disease. *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

If you have any questions please contact Dan Wheeler, Serology Supervisor, at (585) 275-8728, or e-mail: Daniel\_Wheeler@urmc.rochester.edu.