



Change in Assay for Syphilis Screen

To: Clients of UR Medicine Labs

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On September 5th, we will change test platforms for syphilis screening from the Bioplex 2200 Syphilis IgG assay (Bio-Rad Laboratories) to the Abbott ARCHITECT Syphilis TP IgG/IgM assay (Abbott Laboratories). Both assays detect specific antibodies to *Treponema pallidum* in an EIA format and report results as positive or negative. During comparative validation studies, both assays demonstrated similar performance characteristics with the Abbott assay producing fewer false-positive screening results. The addition of an IgM component to the Abbott assay may also improve test sensitivity in screening for early primary syphilis. The test algorithm for confirming positive syphilis screens will not change, i.e., all positive screen results will reflex order an RPR (with titer if reactive) and a TP-PA (Treponema pallidum Particle Agglutination) assay.

For questions, please contact Dan Wheeler, laboratory supervisor, at 275-7861 or Dr. Hardy by any of the methods listed above.