

# Lab Focus

June 2002—periodic insert to 'Scope from Fairview Clinical Laboratories

## Sound bites. . . .

### URINE MICROALBUMIN REPORTING CHANGES

In May 2002, the Protein Laboratory will begin reporting the albumin/creatinine ratio for urine microalbumins in mg/g creatinine. This is a change in reporting units, not in methodology. If your patient has a previous result reported in the old units (mg/mg creatinine), multiply that result by 1000 to convert to mg/g creatinine. If you have questions about this change, please contact the Protein Lab at 612-273-4047.

Linda Bailey, CLS

### CHANGE IN OSTEOCALCIN REFERENCE RANGE

In April, 2002, the Endocrine Laboratory began using the DiaSorin RIA kit for Osteocalcin. The reference range for this test has changed to: 1.8-6.6 ng/mL. Please contact 612-273-3454 with any questions.

Linda Bailey, CLS

### ABATON DECOMMISSIONING

As of April 30, special diagnostics (molecular diagnostics, cytogenetics, immunophenotyping and flow cytometry) and immunology results will display in FCIS only, making FCIS the most complete results reporting system.

Access to Abaton will be turned off to all users in summer 2002. If you are still using Abaton, please look up your results and documents in FCIS. Contact Lou Ann Singer if you need your Physician User ID and Password or a Physician User Guide.

Lou Ann Singer, RN, MS  
Physician Services Lead  
Mary Kujawa, RN, BSN  
Lead Clinical Analyst

### RESPIRATORY SEASON CLOSED MAY 15

After a delayed start, we had a very busy respiratory season with a large number of positive RSV and influenza antigen tests. Our influenza season normally ends in April, but was extended this year with the most recent rapid influenza antigen positive test detected on April 30 at Fairview Oxboro Clinic in Bloomington. We are declaring the "official" close of respiratory season on May 15, 2002. This means that the rapid antigen influenza test will no longer be performed on a routine basis. Antigen testing is discouraged after the normal respiratory season is over because the test can give false positive results. Routine viral respiratory cultures will detect the influenza virus if present. RSV antigen testing will continue to be performed, but please note that a viral respiratory culture is the test of choice.

Henry Balfour, MD  
Medical Director

F-UMC Virology Laboratory

### LABORATORY GUIDE Metro Hospitals and Clinics

The 2002-2003 Laboratory Guide is now available at the metro hospitals and clinics. Copies will be distributed to each of the patient care areas. Please contact the laboratory if you didn't receive a copy and need one.

Contents of the Laboratory Guide include:

- Collection protocols by site
- Specimen requirements
- System-wide blood collection procedures
- Blood Transfusion Guidelines and Services
- Medical Necessity policy

All of the content is also available on the Fairview Intranet or the Internet at <http://labguide.fairview.org>. Select "Fairview Staff" to enter and then select your site from the listing on the left to view the appropriate requirements. Content is updated regularly, so the electronic version is the most current.

Chris Senn, CLS

### DISCONTINUATION OF LAB REPORT PRINTING F-UMC, Riverside Campus

With the impending opening of PCU 11A on the Riverside campus, differing practices for printing of labs were identified. On the University campus, no paper copy of the lab is printed either daily or cumulatively. On the Riverside campus, a cumulative printing occurs every 24 hours and is placed in the patient's chart.

Standards were identified:

- The most accurate and current labs which are available via FCIS
- Adequate access to FCIS
- Consistency between campus

Watch for these actions: 11A will open on May 28 without printing of labs; on August 1, printing of lab reports will be discontinued on 8A, ICU, 10A, and 1North.

Teresa Miller, RN

### PHYSICIAN ORDERS Fairview-University Medical Center, Both Campuses

The Fairview-University Medical Center Executive Medical Staff Committee approved the Physician Orders for Laboratory Testing policy in February 2002. The policy is designed to minimize the number of collections taken from each patient by standardizing the way in which physicians write orders.

Please identify priority when writing test orders using the indicated terminology:

1	<b>ADD ON</b> tests to specimen in lab
2	Order as scheduled collection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>AM</b> - collect tomorrow morning</li><li><b>NEXT</b> - collect now with next scheduled collection</li><li><b>q6, q8, etc</b> - PCU collection schedules are established to coordinate with:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Troponin-I at 0-6, 6-12, and 12-18</li><li>Heparin/PTT as per protocol <math>\pm 2</math> h</li><li>Potassium as per protocol <math>\pm 2</math> h</li><li>Hemoglobin as per protocol <math>\pm 4</math> h</li></ul></li></ul>
3	<b>TIMED</b> , e.g., blood culture following temperature spike, or drug levels to correspond to dosing
4	<b>STAT</b> should be reserved for medical emergencies

John Eckfeldt, MD, PhD  
Bob Meiches, MD