



OUTREACH LABORATORY UPDATE JULY 2011

IMMUNOFIXATION AND ELECTROPHORESIS TESTING

Effective Monday August 8, 2011 Bellin Health Laboratory will begin performing the Immunofixation and Electrophoresis on both serum and urine specimens on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays. These are currently being done Monday through Friday.

TEST ORDER DOCUMENTATION

Please keep in mind that while an Outreach Laboratory order does not specifically need the original providers signed order, that documentation still needs to be available to Bellin Health in the event there is a need for clarification or auditing purposes. Please be sure that this information is available and able to be retrieved from the patient's paper or electronic record.

CHANGES TO MEDICARE NCD POLICIES

Please be aware that there are multiple changes occurring October 1, 2011 to the National Coverage Determinations for various laboratory testing.

The tests with changes include: Blood Counts, Partial Thromboplastin Time, Prothrombin Time, Serum Iron Studies, Blood Glucose, Glycated Hemoglobin (Hgb A1C), Thyroid Testing, Lipid Testing, Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (HCG), Gamma Glutamyl Transferase (GGT) and Fecal Occult Blood.

Generally there are ICD-9 codes being added and deleted from the list of covered codes for the listed laboratory tests. Please refer to Medicare on-line links for information in Change Request #7507 or refer to our Bellin Health links after the October 3, 2011 implementation date.