

LABORATORY OUTREACH UPDATE

MAY 2008

URINALYSIS TESTING CHANGES

Effective May 15, 2008, Bellin Health Hospital Center Laboratory will begin reporting automated urine sediment analysis (microscopic portion) utilizing the UF 100 Urine Cell Analyzer.

The UF-100 analyzes urinary elements by flow cytometry and impedance detection resulting in the identification and quantification of 10 urine element types:

RBC – Red Blood Cells	Crystals
WBC – White Blood Cells	Sperm Cells
Squamous Epithelial Cells	Pathological Casts
Hyalin Casts	Renal Tubular Epithelial Cells
Bacteria	
Yeast	

Based on strict review criteria established by the hospital site laboratory, some automated UF-100 results will require direct microscopic confirmation.

At this time, we will update our reference ranges for RBC, WBC, Epithelial Cells, Hyalin Casts, and Bacteria. These slight changes are based on results of an in-house normal range study and are supported by current literary references.

At this time you may also note a change in the sequence of the results with the RBC result listed first.

If you have any questions, please contact Bellin Health Hospital Laboratory at 920-433-3650.

PRICING CORRECTION

In the last update, pricing for the Von Willebrand's Panel was listed incorrectly. The correct pricing/coding follows:

Von Willebrand's Panel – VWPANEL
Base Client Price = \$509.04
CPT codes = 85240, 85245, 85246, 80500

Reflex Testing – will be noted on report
Multimer Analysis
Base Client Price = \$81.28
CPT = 85247

PAP COLLECTION TIPS TO AVOID THE UNSATISFACTORY DIAGNOSIS

Please allow us to repeat an issue that has been previously addressed, namely the importance of removing blood, mucus and exudate from the cervix before collection of a pap. When excess blood is present in the Thin Prep vial and the specimen is unsatisfactory we attempt to reprocess the specimen after performing a wash with acetic acid to lyse the blood cells. However, this is a costly process that does not guarantee the desired result of a satisfactory specimen. Often the specimen will remain unsatisfactory even after an acid wash is performed; therefore it is best practice if blood, mucus and inflammation are removed prior to collection. Excess blood, mucus and exudate can be removed by placing a gauze pad over the cervix and peeling it away after the blood or exudate is absorbed. A swab may also be used.

Due to your efforts at removing blood and mucus before pap collection, the percentage of specimens requiring the acid wash procedure has decreased. Thank you for your attention to this issue. In order to keep costs and pricing to you as low as possible, our goal is to eliminate the need for this process.

Another cause of unsatisfactory Thin Prep paps is lubricant. Although patients' use of over the counter lubricants may be difficult or impossible to avoid, avoiding any further use of lubricants during pap collection would greatly decrease the chances of obtaining an unsatisfactory specimen. The use of lubricant almost always leads to an unsatisfactory result. The use of lukewarm water to lubricate and warm the speculum is the suggested course of action.

After the Thin Prep pap has been collected, be sure to immediately and vigorously rinse the collection device in the vial. After the collection device has been rinsed of as many cells as possible, discard the collection device. Failure to do so will cause the cells to fix themselves to the collection device making them unavailable in the liquid media for preparation of the slide. This will result in an inadequate number of cells to perform the Thin Prep pap or any possible HPV testing.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call Bellin Cytology at 920-433-3726 or email tmkipp@bellin.org

MEDITECH USERS NOTES

Bellin Hospital Laboratory will be upgrading the computer interface with Mayo Medical Clinic this month. One of the changes you may see is that during order entry information regarding a 24-hour urine collection may need to be entered more than one time.

The interface now requires a separate entry for volume and time of collection for every 24-hour urine test requested. Please take extra caution to enter the accurate volume and time for each questions presented.