



Laboratory Communiqué

Volume 9 , Number 1

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The Laboratory Communiqué is a quarterly publication released by Billings Clinic Laboratory Services as an informational tool for medical staff and laboratorians.

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New Testing

Influenza PCR

Test Number: 9674
 CPT Codes: 87502
 87503

Test Changes

Chol/HDL Ratio added to Lipid Panels

Tagged WBC Scan discontinued

CPT Code Changes

HPV Testing

New Testing

Influenza PCR

PCR testing for Influenza A and B was implemented in November primarily for inpatient testing. Testing is performed on the Cepheid GeneXpert which also performs our molecular MRSA and CDIFF assays. The Cepheid Xpert Flu Assay is a multiplexed real-time RT-PCR assay that differentiates Influenza A, Influenza B and 2009 H1N1.

Specimen Requirement:

A nasopharyngeal swab collected according to our established influenza nasal swab collection procedure.

Nasal aspirate/wash specimens may also be used. Specimens should be placed into Universal Transport Media and transported to the laboratory.

Test Changes

Lipid Panels

The CHOL/HDL Ratio has now been added to all Lipid Panels. The Reference Ranges are:

3.0 or below	Low Risk
3.1 to 4.4	Average Risk
4.5 to 5.0	Increased Risk
5.1 to 6.4	High Risk
6.5 or greater	Extreme Risk



Billings Clinic

Laboratory Services
Contact Us

(406) 657-4060
(866) 232-2522

Director/Pathologist:
Jeffrey Smith, MD

Lab Director:
Mark Lubbers, MT ASCP

Lab Manager:
Sheilah Frazier MT ASCP

Technical Consultant:
Joni Gilstrap, MT ASCP
Extension 4046

Supervisor
Kathy Johnson MT ASCP
Extension 4644

Supervisor
Rebecca Schulz
Extension 4861

**Laboratory Marketing
Coordinator**
Jena DeVries
Extension 4888

Tagged White Cell Scan

Effective immediately, Billings Clinic laboratory will no longer be performing the Indium-111 White Blood Cell Tagging procedure. The test has been canceled due to infrequent utilization and regulatory requirements that can no longer be supported. MRI, CT and gallium scan may be used in lieu of the white blood cell scanning procedure. For questions regarding this cancellation or on alternative testing methods, please contact Dr. Ronald Linfesty of at extension 4658

CPT Changes for 2015

New CPT codes will be active 1-1-15 for the following HPV tests:

	Current CPT	New CPT
HPV 16, 18/45 Genotype	87621	87625
HPV 16, 18/45 Genotype with Pap	87621	87625
HPV High Risk	87621	87623
HPV High Risk (Mayo BHPV)	87621	87623
HPV High Risk with PAP	87621	87623
HPV Geno, PCR (Mayo HPV)	87621	87623

For more information about Billings Clinic Laboratory please call (406) 657-4060.
www.billingsclinic.com.

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Billings Clinic

2800 Tenth Avenue North
P.O. Box 37000
Billings, Montana 59107-7000

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