

Laboratory Communiqué

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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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Test Updates

Pap Smear Report Update:

On June 1st, 2012 we began incorporating HPV DNA High Risk and 16/18 results into the Pap smear report. The hope was to make it more convenient for providers and to help improve patient care with this integrated reporting methodology. We have been closely monitoring this process over the past few months and have determined that this has been a positive change, so we are happy to announce this has become standard practice.

The overall average Pap smear turn around time (3-5 days) has stayed consistent during this period and we will continue to monitor this new process closely to ensure it does not negatively affect patient care with increased turn around times.

Reference Range Updates

The following tests have been moved from the Abbott Axsym analyzer to the Abbott Architect/track system. This change was necessitated by Abbott Laboratories' eventual retirement of the Axsym Immunoassay Instrument from their instrument line.

New	Old
213 - 816 pg/mL	157 – 1059 pg/mL
7.0 - 31.4 ng/mL	7.2 – 15.4 ng/mL
5.46 - 16.20 µmol/L	5.90 – 16.00 µmol/L
4.44 – 13.56 µmol/L	3.36 – 20.44 µmol/L
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	213 - 816 pg/mL 7.0 - 31.4 ng/mL 5.46 - 16.20 µmol/L 4.44 – 13.56 µmol/L

The reference range for the Reticulocyte count has been changed due to a change in the calibration standards. SYSMEX, Inc. made this change to standardize the reticulocyte counting between all their instrument platforms.

	New	Old
Retic Count	0.88 - 2.88%	0.7 - 2.3%
Retic Absolute	28 - 174 x10 ⁹ /L	22 – 139 x10 ⁹ /L

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Laboratory Services

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Education

The 5th Annual Laboratory Services Fall Education Conference will be held Friday November 2nd from 10:00 to 4:00 in the MAFHCC.

Friday, November 2nd

10-11am	Laboratory Test Utilization: The Right Test for the Right Patient at the Right Time Presented by Melissa R. Snyder PhD Mayo Medical Laboratories
11-12 noon	Challenging Cancer Genetic Cases Presented by Susan Landgren MS Billings Clinic
12-1pm	Q&A Luncheon with the Billings Clinic Pathologists
1-2pm	Overview of Hepatitis B Presented by Karen Stainton FNP Billings Clinic
2-3pm	Cutaneous Herpes Virus Infection: The Creeping Virus Presented by Alisa Matthews MD Billings Clinic
3-4pm	Generation Appreciation: Looking Beyond the Birthday Presented by Shelly Hayes MBA, CPC Billings Clinic

ASCLS will also be hosting their fall meeting on Saturday, November 3rd from 8:00-3:00 in MAFHCC.

Questions on the conference may be directed to Jena DeVries, Billings Clinic Laboratory Marketing Coordinator at (406) 657-4888 or (866) 232-2522 x4888 or to Joni Gilstrap, Billings Clinic Laboratory Technical Consultant (x4046).

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

