

Laboratory News

Saint Francis Medical Center



September 2019

CMS NCD/LCD & ICD10 Diagnosis Code Update...

On Tuesday, October 1st, CMS will release the updated NCD/LCD guidelines for testing frequency as well as the updated ICD10 diagnosis codes for 2020. These updates will be reflected in Atlas/Sunquest and could (potentially) cause additional Advanced Beneficiary Notifications (ABN's) to print out when orders are placed in Atlas.

Please continue to follow SFMC's current protocol for completing and submitting ABNs. It is the ordering provider's responsibility to provide a properly completed and signed ABN when patient testing coverage is questioned.

If you have any questions about ABN's, or would like more information regarding ABN's and Atlas, please contact your Clinical Representative.

Sabrina Mullins 309-624-9144
Raechel Pfahl 309-624-9100

SFMC Calcium Reference Range Update...

Effective September 10th, 2019, OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center revised our Calcium reference range. An extensive reference range study was conducted internally in response to provider concerns around an increasing number of slightly abnormally high calcium results.

The reference range study supported a slight shift upwards in our adult calcium reference ranges which are shown below:

Revised Reference Ranges

Males (12 years old and up): 9.1-10.5 mg/dL

Females (12 years old and up): 9.1-10.5 mg/dL

→ For any questions pertaining to these changes, please contact Melinda Davis, Core Laboratory Department Manager, at 309-624-9024.

Recent Atlas Test Changes...

Effective on 8/1/2018:

1)OSF System Laboratory turned on OSF test code CA199 and turned off Mayo test code CA19. (This was in the August 2018 newsletter and has been orderable since 8/1/2018, but the old Mayo code was not deactivated until last week.)

Effective on 9/5/2019:

1)OSF System Laboratory turned on Mayo test codes GL1IS and DPPIS (both are reflex test codes for the PAVAL test panel).

Effective on 9/13/2019:

1)OSF System Laboratory turned on Mayo test code SFUNG and will turn off Mayo test code FUNGS.

Effective on 9/13/2019:

1)OSF System Laboratory turned on Mayo test code FARMA. Due to reagent issues, Mayo will be forwarding the FARMA test to Quest at no charge as part of the MGA1, MGL1, and MGT1 profiles. (The FARMA is not orderable separately, it is only a reflex for the profiles (to replace the ARMO component of those which is down at this time)).

"Stay away from negative people... They have a problem for every solution."

- Albert Einstein



Questions??

If you are an OSF Laboratory Outreach client and you have a billing-related question, please contact OSF's Patient Accounts and Access Center billing department at (309) 683-6750.

The PAAC billing agents will be happy to assist you with your inquiry.

If you have other questions, please contact OSF's Laboratory Customer Support department at (800) 533-6730 and they will direct you to the appropriate SFMC Lab Mission Partner.

Guidelines for Droplet Precautions:

Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents

Prepared By: Sabrina Mullins BS, MLT (ASCP)^{cm}

September 2019

Building a Culture of Safety...

Tips to protect against droplet contact:

- ⇒ Hand hygiene with soap and water. (Sanitizer is good for using in between hand washing but should never be considered the main source)
- ⇒ Personal Protective Equipment (gloves, mask, gown)
- ⇒ Cough, sneeze, nose blow/wipe, etc. into a tissue or the crook of the elbow.
- ⇒ Disinfect surfaces of common use

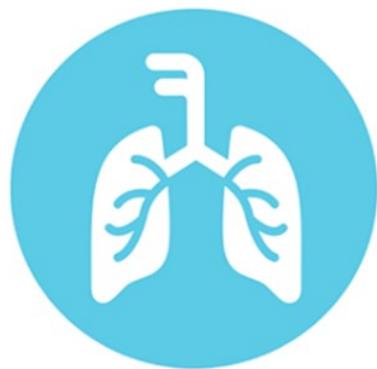
Droplet Transmission occurs when respiratory droplets carrying infectious agents spread infection when they travel directly from the respiratory tract of the infectious individual to susceptible mucosal surfaces of the recipient.

Respiratory droplets are generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks, or during procedures such as suctioning, endo-tracheal intubation, cough induction by chest physiotherapy and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

Evidence for droplet transmission derives from epidemiological studies of disease outbreaks, experimental studies and from information on aerosol dynamics.

Studies have shown that the nasal mucosa, conjunctivae and (less frequently) the mouth, are susceptible portals of entry for respiratory viruses; however, the maximum distance for droplet transmission is unclear.

Historically, the area of defined risk has been a distance of less than 3 feet around the patient based on research studies of selected infections. Using this distance for donning masks has been effective in preventing transmission of infectious agents via the droplet route.



OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center Laboratory utilizes the BioFire[®] FilmArray[®] methodology for performing the Respiratory Pathogen Array testing.

- ⇒ *This molecular method is capable of detecting viral and bacterial infectious agents in just over 60 minutes.*

OSF Orderable Test ID: Respiratory Pathogen Array [LAB2944, RESPA]

Specimen Requirements:

- Nasopharyngeal swab (flocked swab) and 1mL Universal Transport Media
- Specimen testing is performed 24 hours a day/7 days per week.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your Clinical Representative.

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Raechel Pfahl 309-624-9100