



MEMORANDUM

TO: OSF HealthCare System Laboratory Customers and Clients

FROM: OSF HealthCare System Laboratory

DATE: September 25, 2018

RE: **Levetiracetam Testing moving to the SFMC Laboratory**

Effective **October 18, 2018** OSF HealthCare System Laboratory will begin offering Levetiracetam testing at our Laboratory. The Levetiracetam level is currently performed by Mayo Medical Laboratories as LAB2150 – LEVE (CPT 80177). **The new SFMC testing will replace the current Mayo Send-out testing, and will be orderable as LAB4915 – LEVET (CPT 80177)**; by bringing the Levetiracetam test into the OSF Laboratory, it allows for a reduced turnaround time and better patient care.

Levetiracetam (KEPPRA®) is an anti-convulsant drug approved for use as an adjunctive therapy in the treatment of epilepsy. The ARK Levetiracetam assay was developed for the quantitative determination of Levetiracetam for use with Abbott's Architect Track Systems.

Method evaluations were conducted comparing Mayo Medical Laboratory's methodology, tandem mass spectrometry, to OSF's Abbott Architect method, homogenous enzyme immunoassay, and the study has shown that the two methods are very comparable upon review of the comparison data.

OSF's Levetiracetam testing will be performed daily with a 24 hour turn-around-time and the specimen requirements will not change; Levetiracetam requires 1.0 mL of serum from a Red top tube. Red top specimens must be centrifuged and the serum removed from the cellular matter within two hours of collection, as the Levetiracetam may be metabolized in the presence of the blood cells. Once the serum is separated from the cells, it is stable for 7 days if refrigerated at 2-8°C.

Levetiracetam specimens that are collected in Gold or Green top tubes will be **rejected** as "Incorrect Specimen Type"; per the reagent manufacturer, specimens **must not** be collected in tubes with gel separator tubes.

Please note that for patient testing ordered through October 17th, continue to order the Mayo test LEVE (LAB2150); **if on or after October 18th**, please order using OSF test LEVET (LAB4915).