



Monthly Update



October
2017

Kidney Stone Collection and Preparation for Analysis

The composition of urinary stones may vary from a simple crystal to a complex mixture containing several different species of crystals. The composition of the nidus (center) may be entirely different from that of the peripheral layers. Eighty percent of patients with kidney stones have a history of recurrent stone formation. Knowledge of a stone's composition is necessary to guide therapy of patients with recurrent stone formation.

When submitting stones for Kidney Stone Analysis, CASA (LAB1936), the following guidelines should be followed to avoid possible rejection or loss of an irretrievable specimen.

Prepare the patient specimen by:

- 1) Cleaning any blood or foreign material from the stone with water.
- 2) Send entire stone. Stone should be air dried thoroughly at room temperature for 24 hours on a tissue or towel and sent in container provided.

Important: Any residual moisture on the stone or in the container will result in a testing delay. A dry stone will not stick to the walls of the container.

- Do not send stone in formalin, surgical gel, or any other liquid as it interferes with the analytical procedure.
 - Do not tape specimen to anything. Tape interferes with the analytical procedure.
 - Do not send filter.
- 3) If multiple stones are collected and individual testing is desired for each stone, place each stone into its own container. Testing must be ordered separately on each stone. Each test will be charged separately.
 - 4) Indicate source of specimen on outside of container (e.g., left kidney, bladder, right ureter).
 - 5) Attach a specimen identification label to the container.
 - 6) Send at ambient temperature.

If a gross description of the kidney stone is necessary, in addition to Mayo's Kidney Stone Analysis, an order for a Surgical Pathology specimen (LAB1770) needs to be placed with the following comment on the order:

"Kidney Stone to be sent out for analysis."

OSF Healthcare Saint Francis Medical Center System Laboratory thanks you for your time and effort in assuring the highest quality patient care in preparing the specimens by adhering to these guidelines and specifications, ensuring that the patient receives the most accurate test results possible.

Practice 5S Methodology

5S is the name of a workplace method that uses a list of five key words that start with "S": Sort, Set in order, Sanitation, Standardize, and Sustain. 5S was developed in Japan as one of the techniques enabling "Just-in-time" manufacturing and although the methodology is a basis for lean manufacturing, practicing 5S techniques also has value in the healthcare field and in personal lives:

- 1) **Sort (Seiri):** Eliminate physical obstacles and reduce chances of being disturbed by removing anything that is not a necessity. Sort based on good and bad and remove bad/unwanted objects. Old equipment can hide new equipment from the eye and force people to ask which to use.
- 2) **Set in order (Seiton):** Everything has a place and put everything in its place. Eliminate wasted time by organizing the area and arrange items such that the items being used the most frequent are in the closest proximity to the area/people where they are being used.
- 3) **Sanitize (Seiso):** Clean your area on a daily basis. Work stations or areas that are clean and free of clutter are pleasing and can be more enjoyable to work in.
- 4) **Standardize (Seiketsu):** Utilize the same methods, techniques, and (if possible) supplies and materials such that there are little or no variables. Maintain high standards at all times.
- 5) **Sustain (Shitsuke):** Perform regular checks, audits and training to maintain the order. Ensure all the standards are being followed and encourage "do without being told" behaviors. Follow the process, but be open to thoughts and suggestions for improvement.

Practicing 5S can have a direct impact on a 6th "S"- **Safety**. By organizing and keeping work areas clean and clutter free, safety mishaps can be minimized or eliminated. Dirty, cluttered, or damaged surfaces and areas attract the eye, which spends a fraction of a second trying to pull useful information from them every time we glance past.

Questions about your bill?

If you are an Outreach lab client and have a billing-related question, please follow the first step, which is to contact our Patient Accounts and Access Center billing department at **(309) 683-6750**. The PAAC billing agents will be happy to assist you with your inquiry.

Client Reps:

Deanna Hibbert (309) 624-9138
Sabrina Mullins (309) 624-9144
Raechel Pfahl (309) 624-9100

Marketing Support:

Gregg Simpson (309) 624-3927

Sales and Marketing Supervisor:

Gordon Koerner (309) 624-9287

Outreach Manager:

Michael Cohlman (309) 624-9042

Revision to Specimen Labeling Policy to Better Serve Our Patients

In order to better serve our patients, we have revised our policy regarding specimen labeling. The revision involves the verification process of the patient's full first and last name, and DOB, on the specimen container to the accompanying order, historical records and our electronic medical record (patient names must match letter-for-letter). We still require two unique patient identifiers be documented on the specimen container in order to verify patient identity; at a minimum, the patient's legal full first and last name and DOB are required.

When a discrepancy is identified, the laboratory will contact the submitting facility to obtain clarifying information to assure that the testing is being resulted for the correct patient. In some cases, additional information such as a government issued ID, additional documentation, or a patient information sheet may be required to support any amendment to patient demographics.

The OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center System Laboratory will accept alternate unique patient identifiers in place of a discrepant name or DOB; alternate identifiers must be present on the specimen label at the time of receipt. Unique identifiers may include, but are not limited to, client's medical record number, client's order or accession number or social security number.

Handling and Transport of Bone Marrow and Oncology Blood

In order to potentially increase the growth of bone marrow and oncology blood specimens for chromosome and FISH analysis, the Cytogenetics Department is recommending storing these specimens at room temperature prior to transport to our laboratory, in addition to transporting them at room temperature. Ambient specimens are preferred, but refrigerated specimens will be accepted.

Z Codes now on OSF System Lab website

Z Codes are utilized to represent a reason for an encounter. They can be used in conjunction with ICD-10 diagnosis codes and should not be confused with or used as procedure codes. The OSF System Laboratory has added a Z Code list to the laboratory website and can be found at:

<https://www.osfhealthcare.org/lab/outreach/forms/>

Test Updates and Changes

Mayo announced changes to 2 tests they perform: Effective October 18th, AMLF, Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) FISH (LAB3153) and MDSF, Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) FISH (LAB2127) will both include the NUP98 break apart FISH probe.

Effective 10/3, the following changes take place:

Mayo test code SPAG, S. pneumonia IgG Ab, 6 serotypes (LAB2304) will be turned off.

Mayo test code FCORT, Cortisol, free, serum will be turned off and replaced with Mayo test CORTF, Cortisol, free, serum (LAB4787).

Mayo test code HAV will be turned off and replaced with Mayo test HAIGG, Hepatitis A IgG Ab, serum (LAB4785).

Mayo test code FHERV will be turned off and replaced with Mayo test LHSV, Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), PCR (LAB4786).

New test: Mayo MNCRU, Manganese/Creatinine ratio, Random urine (LAB4772)

New test: Mayo TPPA, Syphilis Ab by TP-PA, serum (LAB4773)

New test: Mayo DMC1, Dementia, Autoimmune Evaluation, Spinal fluid (LAB4774)

Reflex codes associated with DMC1:

WBNC (reflex only) Paraneoplas Autoantibody W Blot, CSF (LAB4775)

CRMWC, Collapsin Response-Mediator Protein-5-IgG (CRMP-5-IgG) W Blot, Spinal fluid (LAB4776)

ABLTC (reflex only) Reflex Amphiphysin W Blt, CSF (LAB4777)

NMOFC, Neuromyelitis Optica (NMO)/

Aquaporin-4-IgG Fluorescence-Activated Cell Sorting (LAB4778)

NMOTC (reflex only) Reflex NMO/AQP4 FACS Titer, CSF (LAB4779)

AMPIC (reflex only) Reflex AMPA-R Ab IF Titer Assay, CSF (LAB4780)

GABIC, (reflex only) Reflex GABA-B-R Ab IF Titer Assay, CSF (LAB4781)

NMDIC (reflex only) Reflex NMDA-R Ab IF Titer Assay, CSF (LAB4782)

PCA1C (reflex only) Reflex Purkinje Cell Cytoplasmic Ab Type 1 (LAB4783)

Keep in mind...

"20 years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do, than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." - *Mark Twain*