



## WHAT VITAMIN D TEST TO ORDER?

- #9277 Vitamin D, 25 Hydroxy**  
Order when screening for Vitamin D deficiency.
- #9501 Vitamin D, 25 Hydroxy (Prescription only)**  
Order when patient has taken prescription ordered Vitamin D.
- #386 Vitamin D, 1, 25 Dihydroxy**  
Order only when evaluating patient for hypercalcemia and renal failure.  
Do not order this test in addition to Vitamin D, 25 Hydroxy (test #9277)

Questions: Gregory Post, Ph.D.  
Director of Clinical Services

## ANIMAL CBC

Physicians Laboratory is able to perform a CBC (Complete Blood Count) and reticulocyte count on 51 species of animals due to the "Multi-species Software®" contained in the Siemens ADVIA 2120 analyzer. The software uses the system's ability to measure MCV (Mean Corpuscular Volume) from 15-140 fL, while providing a comprehensive range of quantitative red cell flagging based on sex and species. The standard range of species includes dog, cat, rabbit, rabbit NZW, guinea pig, horse, cattle, goat, pig, sheep, cyno monkey, rhesus monkey, rat as well as several strains of mice.

**To provide accurate results, the client must provide the species.**

Test #399 Vet CBC  
(Includes a platelet count and automated differential; manual differential will be performed if automated differential is abnormal).

Test #209 Reticulocyte

Questions: Cassy Richards  
Omaha Hematology Supervisor  
Patsi Tobey  
Lincoln Technical Supervisor

## MDL® LAB

Physicians Laboratory Services is now sending specimens to MDL® (Medical Diagnostics Laboratory, L.L.C.). MDL® is a CLIA certified laboratory and specializes in high complexity PCR testing. MDL® provides three unique collection devices: OneSwab®, UroSwab®, and NasoSwab®. With these devices, the provider is able to request numerous pathogens with only one collection. No refrigeration of the sample is required before or after the collection, and the specimen is viable at room temperature for up to 5 days. Additional testing can be requested on the sample up to 30 days from collection.

For a complete list of available MDL® tests and specimen requirements, contact the Send Out department.

## SUPPLY UPDATE

The Becton Dickinson (BD)™ Vacutainer Precision Glide Multi-sample Needles have been discontinued and will no longer be manufactured. Those needles will be replaced by BD™ Vacutainer Eclipse Safety Collection Needles. We will continue to distribute the remaining Precision Glide needles until our current supply is depleted. The Eclipse Safety Needles will be available in sizes 21 x 1 ¼ and 22 x 1 ¼. Instructions for use are printed on the side of the box or available by request from our Supply Dept.

## AMBIENT (ROOM TEMPERATURE) TRANSPORT BAGS

Ambient (room temperature) transport bags are now available. The bags are green and are labeled "Room Temperature Only". Do not use for refrigerated, frozen or "stat" specimens. To request them, contact our Supply Department

## "PROTECT FROM LIGHT" TUBES AND BAGS

Physicians Laboratory offers amber colored transport tubes and specific transport bags labeled "Protect From Light" for specimens that will be compromised if not protected from light. When specimen requirements state "Protect from Light", please use these products. To request the tubes and/or bags, contact our Supply Department.

## PHONE MONITORING

In order to improve customer service, Physicians Laboratory will start recording incoming and outgoing calls beginning July 1. These calls will be used for training purposes so that we may insure quality communications. Monitoring of calls will allow management to provide educational instruction based on employees interactions with patients and medical staff. We are committed to providing excellent customer service, and we are confident that this additional tool will enhance our overall performance.

## COURIER SERVICE

Physicians Laboratory couriers are assigned specific schedules that encompass a list of clients within a geographical location. Each route is carefully planned so that the courier arrives at a designated time, obtains the specimen(s), and returns to the laboratory so testing can begin promptly. Therefore, it is imperative the specimens are ready for pick up when the couriers arrive, and there is no delay for him or her to reach the next destination. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.