

As part of the transition to Quest Diagnostics for laboratory services, the following tests will be sent to the Quest laboratory in Marlboro, MA, beginning Thursday October 5:

1. ANA will be replaced by Quest #249 'ANA Screen with Reflex to Titer' (QANA)
2. DRVVT has been interfaced to Quest #15780
3. SCT will be replaced by Quest #17408 'PTT LA w/Reflex' (PTT LA R)
4. DSDNA will be replaced by Quest #37092 'DNA(DS) Antibody, Crithida, IFA w/Reflex' (DNA AB RFLX)
5. CRYOGLB has been interfaced to Quest #36562
6. CRYOGLB R has been interfaced to Quest #37358
7. PROTEIN S has been replaced by Quest #10170 'Protein S Antigen Free' (FPROTS)
8. PROTEIN C has been interfaced with Quest #1777
9. LAMOT has been interfaced with Quest #22060

In addition, all serum/urine protein electrophoresis and immunofixation testing will be sent to the Quest laboratory in Marlboro, MA. These tests will no longer be run in-house in Bangor. Turnaround time is estimated to be 24 hours from the time of receipt in their laboratory.

Due to differences in protein electrophoresis testing methodologies performed at the two laboratories, it is possible that quantitative values for monoclonal proteins performed at Quest may not correlate exactly with values previously obtained at the Northern Light laboratory. Therefore, changes in quantitative M-spike values may be due to testing methodology and may not represent a true clinical change. Once a new baseline is established at Quest, however, future changes in values can be interpreted accordingly. Other minor differences include separate orderables for timed and random urine protein electrophoresis and the requirement for a fasting sample for cryoglobulin testing.

If you have any additional questions or concerns please contact Cathy Hastings, Chemistry Supervisor at 973-6963 and/or Dr. Buetens, medical director at 973-7614.

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