



May 25, 2021

Client Notice

Discontinuation of Urine Urobilinogen/Bilirubin test

Effective June 14, 2021, LifeLabs will discontinue Urine Urobilinogen/Bilirubin testing.

This decision was made based on:

- Poor analytical performance of this test, primarily due to a high proportion of false negative results due to instability of bilirubin and urobilinogen to temperature and light, and less frequently, false positive results due to urine colour¹⁻².
- Very low number of requests for this test at LifeLabs (eight or less specimens per month).
- Availability of serum liver function tests with superior sensitivity, and better analyte stability.

Please note that if you order Urine Urobilinogen/Bilirubin after this date, the specimen will not be processed. Please request serum liver function test(s) instead, as clinically appropriate (including ALT, AST, GGT and/or Total Bilirubin).

For further information, please contact the LifeLabs clinical biochemist below, or LifeLabs Customer Care Centre at 1-877-849-3637.

We welcome your feedback!

References:

- 1) Foley KF, Wasserman J: Are unexpected positive dipstick urine bilirubin results clinically significant? A retrospective review. *Laboratory Medicine* 2014; 45: 59.
- 2) Binder L, Smith D, Kupka T and al.: Failure of prediction of liver function test abnormalities with the urine urobilinogen and urine bilirubin assays. *Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine* 1989; 113: 73.

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