

NEW NAME for Physicians' Newsletter!

At LifeLabs, we as pathologists see it as a very important component of our service to keep you, our colleagues, informed about the latest news on the lab front. The Physicians' Newsletter has enabled us to do so for many years. As part of our vision for the future, we decided to change our newsletter's name and what time is better to introduce it than the first edition of a brand new year!



The **NEW NAME** is:

PHYSICIANS' LAB UPDATE



The new name indicates that the information is lab-related, whereas the term newsletter is not specific to the laboratory.

The changes do not stop with our new name though. Traditionally, we have had four editions of the newsletter each year, but starting this year, we will be adding an extra edition. Now you can expect a new edition every two months; however, over the summer months, we will take a break with you.

Another new feature will be short patient case presentations focusing on common diseases. It will include a typical case history, findings on physical examination and pertinent lab findings. This will be followed by a short discussion and a box highlighting the "pearls" of the disease.

We have even more new features planned but will keep them as a surprise!

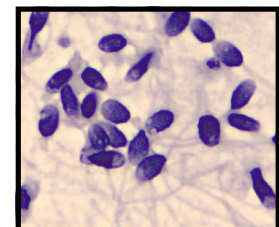
We value your feedback and therefore, if you have any comments or requests, please send an e-mail to the editor.

Dr. Colette Pienaar, Editor-in-Chief
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Semen Analysis Testing CHANGES

LifeLabs recently started to use the World Health Organization (WHO) criteria for semen analysis. Please note the change in reference range in the Sperm Morphology section: **Normal forms ≥ 4** . The LifeLabs semen analysis procedure and reporting are currently being updated to be fully consistent with the WHO criteria (5th edition, 2010).

Dr. Zohra Daw, Hematopathologist



Sperms on hematoxylin stain

NEW Outpatient Lab Requisition Form

A new outpatient lab requisition form will be distributed to physicians starting in January 2011. Below is the new requisition with the highlights of the changes indicated in the blue boxes.

MICROBIOLOGY

ROUTINE CULTURE

- Check boxes for Superficial wound & Deep wound added

VAGINITIS, GROUP B STREP SCREEN and CT & GC now have separate sections

GROUP B STREP SCREEN (Pregnancy only)

- Check box for Penicillin allergy added

CHLAMYDIA (CT) & GONORRHEA (GC)

- CT & GC now ordered together automatically

STOOL SPECIMENS

- Check boxes for *C. difficile* testing & Stool culture added

HEMATOLOGY

- WBC, Hemoglobin and Hemoglobin Only check boxes removed
- Ferritin & Iron saturation are now listed in this section rather than Chemistry

CHEMISTRY

- Glucose: More GTT choices (with load & number of hours indicated for each)
- Hemoglobin A1c and ACR are now listed

LIPIDS


- Indications for testing (with investigations performed for each indication) are now listed
- Self-pay profile now has a separate check box

THYROID FUNCTION

- Indications for testing (with investigations performed for each indication) are now listed

OTHER CHEMISTRY TESTS

- A number of other chemistry tests are now listed, each with their own check box
- PSA ordering does not require a diagnosis
- Separate MSP billable box & patient self-pay box for PSA
- Therapeutic drugs are no longer listed with a check box; they have to be ordered in writing under **OTHER TESTS**



Laboratory Requisition
This requisition form, when completed, constitutes a referral to LifeLabs laboratory physicians

THIS AREA IS FOR LAB USE

COMPLETE and ACCURATE information is required in all shaded areas.

Patient Surname (from CareCard)		First	Initial(s)	Date of Birth	Sex
Bill to: <input type="checkbox"/> MSP <input type="checkbox"/> ICBC <input type="checkbox"/> WorkSafeBC <input type="checkbox"/> Patient <input type="checkbox"/> Other		I.D. Number		Chart Number	Room # (LTC use only)
PHN		City, Province		Postal Code	Phone Number
Physician Name & MSC Number		Locum for:	CO Number	Date/Time of Collection	Phlebotomist
Copy to:		Physician		Date/Time/Name of Medication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnant <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Fasting _____ hours prior to test		<input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax		Telephone Requisition Received By: _____ INITIALS/DATE	
Diagnosis and indications for guideline protocol and special tests					

For tests indicated with a shaded tick box, consult provincial guidelines and protocols (www.BCCGGuidelines.ca)

HEMATOLOGY <input type="checkbox"/> Hematology profile <input type="checkbox"/> PT/INR <input type="checkbox"/> On Warfarin? <input type="checkbox"/> Ferritin (query iron deficiency) <input type="checkbox"/> Iron & transferrin saturation <input type="checkbox"/> Special case (if ordered together) (Hemochromatosis screen)	ROUTINE CULTURE List current antibiotics: <input type="checkbox"/> Throat <input type="checkbox"/> Sputum <input type="checkbox"/> Blood <input type="checkbox"/> Superficial Wound Site: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Deep Wound Site: _____ Other: _____	URINE TESTS <input type="checkbox"/> Urine culture - list current antibiotics: <input type="checkbox"/> Macroscopic → microscopic if dipstick positive <input type="checkbox"/> Macroscopic (dipstick) <input type="checkbox"/> Microscopic <input type="checkbox"/> Special case (if ordered together) <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy test
CHEMISTRY <input type="checkbox"/> Glucose - fasting (see reverse for patient instructions) <input type="checkbox"/> Glucose _____ hours post meal <input type="checkbox"/> GTT - gestational diabetes screen (50 g load, 1 hour post-load) <input type="checkbox"/> GTT - gestational diabetes confirmator (75 g load, fasting, 1 & 2 hour test) <input type="checkbox"/> GTT - non-pregnant (75 g load, 2 hour test) <input type="checkbox"/> Hemoglobin A1c <input type="checkbox"/> Albumin/creatinine ratio (ACR) - Urine	HEPATITIS SEROLOGY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One box only. For other hepatitis Markers, please order under Other Tests section. <input type="checkbox"/> Acute viral hepatitis undefined etiology Hepatitis A (anti-HAV IgM) Hepatitis B (HBsAg, anti-HBc, anti-HBs) Hepatitis C (anti-HCV) <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic viral hepatitis undefined etiology Hepatitis B (HBsAg, anti-HBc, anti-HBs) Hepatitis C (anti-HCV) Investigation of hepatitis immune status <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis A (anti-HAV, total) <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis B (anti-HBc, total) <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis marker(s) - HBsAg	OTHER TESTS <input type="checkbox"/> ECG <input type="checkbox"/> Holter (appt required) <input type="checkbox"/> Fecal Occult Blood

OTHER TESTS

ECG, Holter and Fecal Occult Blood are now listed, each with their own check box

HEPATITIS SEROLOGY



This section is greatly expanded with more specific test requests

URINE TESTS

- Pregnancy test now listed in this section rather than Chemistry
- A serum pregnancy test must now be ordered in writing under **OTHER TESTS**
- Urinalysis / Urine culture now listed in this section rather than Microbiology

Dr. Colette Pienaar (Medical Microbiologist) and Pat Ludeman (Quality Resource Technologist)

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LifeLabs BC is proud to be the First Laboratory in Canada to achieve ISO 15189:2007 Accreditation	 <p>SCC Accredited Medical Laboratory ISO 15189:2007</p>	As required by the CPSBC, LifeLabs is accredited by the:  Diagnostic Accreditation Program
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