Update

May 17, 2018

Factor V Leiden and Prothrombin Gene Mutation (Factor II)
Mercy Clinical Laboratory Molecular Department is pleased to announce that Factor V Leiden and Prothrombin Gene Mutation (Factor II) testing will move to the Cepheid GeneXpert® System on May 29, 2018. This will allow testing to occur daily, Monday – Friday, which will decrease the turn-around time for results. The price remains the same. Acceptable specimen type is whole blood from EDTA, lavender top tube, or Sodium Citrate, blue top tube. Samples are stable for up to 15 days if stored at refrigerator temperature or 90 days if frozen. Please keep in mind that MCL stores tested specimens for 5 days, refrigerated. This new platform is FDA approved and provides rapid results for Factor II and Factor V Leiden mutations as an aid in the diagnosis of suspected thrombophilia.

Cobas® collection kits for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea PCR Testing
Please check the expiration date on the collection kits for this testing. We have received some expired transport tubes and want to avoid patient recollection. The expired tubes are easily recognized because the cap is pale yellow and of a different shape than non-expired sample tubes. Order new kits using the MCL supply order form.

Mayo Viral Culture, Non-Respiratory (VIRNR)
A reminder that dermal samples (swabs of lesions or pustules) are only acceptable for enterovirus under this test code. If Herpes Simplex Virus or Varicella-Zoster Virus is suspected, the optimal test method is PCR.

Viral DFA for Respiratory Viruses
This test is no longer available. Please order viral culture or PCR testing.

Culture AFB Blood (C AFB B)
This test is now sent to Mayo Medical Laboratories. Specimen required is whole blood from green top sodium heparin tube. The SPS tube is an acceptable sample type so you may continue to use up your supply until the tubes expire, however Mayo does not supply this tube, so we will no longer provide them.
Heavy Metal Testing
Blood levels for Aluminum, Arsenic, Cadmium, Copper, Mercury, and Zinc are now sent to Mayo Medical Laboratories. Arsenic, Cadmium, Copper, Mercury, and Zinc should be drawn in the royal blue top EDTA tube. Aluminum should be drawn in Greiner Z Trace Element no additive tube. If you are spinning and aliquoting in your facility, use the metal free aliquot tube. The tubes mentioned above are available from MCL.

QuantiFERON® TB Gold Plus
Instructions for collection must be followed closely to minimize recollection and indeterminate results. Collect 1 ml of blood into each of the 4 QFT® Plus tubes. Volume of blood must be in the range of the black bar on each tube. Consider collection with a syringe to ensure the proper volume. Specimens will be rejected and will need a redraw if the volume is outside the range marked on the tube.

Thank you for choosing MCL.