October 1, 2018

TECHNICAL ALERT

Cortisol

Mercy Clinical Laboratory (MCL) recently became aware of an issue identified by Beckman Coulter, MCL’s chemistry reagent manufacturer, that cross-contamination between reagent wells for a specific lot of cortisol reagent may have occurred. Due to this cross-contamination, patient results may have been reported with values falsely decreased by up to 16%. MCL had been using this defective lot for cortisol testing on patient samples reported between September 11 and September 28, 2018.

For patient samples still retained in storage, cortisol testing was repeated on an acceptable lot of reagent. These patient reports have been corrected when clinically significant values were obtained as a result of the re-testing. The samples included in the re-testing event were initially reported after September 20, 2018.

MCL will retest any patient who had a cortisol test between September 11 and September 20, 2018 at no charge. Please contact Mona Dinnauer at 515-247-4933 for retest requests.

If you have any questions regarding testing, please contact Core Lab Manager Andrea Jones at 515-247-4484.

Thank you for choosing Mercy Clinical Laboratory!