

Laboratory Update

TEST PERFORMING & ORDERING:

Treponema pallidum (Syphilis) Testing:

We would like to provide guidance on the appropriate ordering workflow for *Treponema pallidum* (Syphilis) testing.

For Clients Not Performing Syphilis Screening At Their Facility:

1. **Initial Test:**

Treponema pallidum (Syphilis) Antibody – [LAB8418] (*MercyOne Des Moines*)

2. **If Reactive:**

RPR with Reflex to Titer and TP-PA – [LAB5232] (*MercyOne Des Moines*)

For Clients Performing Syphilis Screening At Their Facility:

1. **If Reactive:**

RPR with Reflex to Titer and TP-PA – [LAB5232] (*MercyOne Des Moines*)

Peripheral Blood Smear (PBSM):

- PBSM – [LAB4879] **must** be ordered with a CBC with Differential [LAB293].
- PBSM may be added on if the sample is in-lab within 24 hours of collection.
- After 24 hours, a new CBC with differential and PBSM must be collected and ordered.
- For incomplete CBCs performed at your facility, please credit the patient and re-order testing through MercyOne Des Moines Laboratory. Testing will be completed per our protocols, and charges will apply for CBC, differential, and PBSM.

Safe-T-Fill Lead Recall:

The FDA has issued a safety communication regarding the use of ASP Global RAM Scientific SAFE-T-FILL Micro Capillary Blood Collection Tubes, citing incidents of falsely elevated (false positive) lead test results.

Effective immediately, please discontinue the use of Safe-T-Fill (Microtainer Capillary Purple) Tubes for lead testing (see image below, left).

As an alternative, please use the K2EDTA Microtainer Tubes (see image below, right).



Microtainer Capillary Purple Tube



K2EDTA Microtainer tube

For more details, please refer to the official FDA safety communication:

[Risk of False Positive Lead Test Results with Certain Capillary Blood Collection Tubes Used with Magellan Diagnostics LeadCare Testing Systems – FDA Safety Communication | FDA](#)

ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY:

Tissue Exam: Ordering Addendum

- Only one order is needed per patient, regardless of the number of specimens.
- For specimen names not listed in the dropdown or when additional testing is needed, use 'Label Comments' for details. Use 'Order Comments' for clinical or ICD-related information.
- A paper requisition is required for all AP specimens, in addition to electronic orders. All paper requisitions are required to have ICD 10 codes. We ask that client please use alphanumeric codes instead of the diagnosis title, as there are many similar named diagnosis codes.

We would like to thank all our clients for their continued patience, cooperation, and understanding as we navigate this transition to EPIC.