NOTICE OF NEW SERVICE

DATE: February 27, 2007

TO: House Staff Physicians, Faculty, and Nursing Personnel
    Primary Care Network Physicians and Nurse

FROM: Gerald Kost, M.D., PhD, Director, Clinical Chemistry
       Chris Jarvinen, Supervisor, General Clinical Chemistry

Re: AVAILABILITY OF FETAL FIBRONECTIN (fFN) AS AN AID IN PREDICTION OF PRETERM LABOR

Effective immediately, The Fetal Fibronectin Test will be performed by the clinical laboratory. The testing will be done daily within 8 hours of receipt of specimen.

Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) is a complex adhesive glycoprotein that is confined to the extracellular matrix of the region defining the junction of the maternal and fetal units within the uterus. Fetal Fibronectin can be detected in cervicovaginal secretions of women throughout pregnancy by use of a monoclonal antibody-based immunoassay.

Numerous studies have revealed:
1. A positive fFN is highly associated with premature delivery within 7 days to 14 days.
2. A negative fFN has less than a 1% risk of delivery within 14 days.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:

Obtain specimen using the Adeza Biomedical Corporation Specimen Collection Kit. Use collection instructions from kit.

Transport: The specimen must sent to the lab immediately, and analyzed within 8 hours

Unacceptable Conditions:
1. Specimens not collected properly in Adeza Collection Kit
2. Insufficient buffer volume
3. Bloody specimens may cause false positives or invalid results

Stability: Ambient: 8 hours; Refrigerated: 3 days

APPROVED BY: Ralph Green, M.D., Ph.D.
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cc: Alan Siefkin, MD
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