NOTICE OF CHANGE OF SERVICE

DATE: August 23, 2007

TO: Housestaff and PCN Physicians, Faculty, and Nursing Personnel

FROM: Stuart H. Cohen, MD
Professor, Infectious and Immunologic Diseases
Director, Microbiology Laboratory

Sridevi Devaraj, Ph.D., DABCC, FACB
Director of Toxicology and Special Chemistry

RE: HIV METHODOLOGY CHANGE

Effective September 5, 2007, the BioMérieux Vironostika HIV-1 screen will be replaced with the ADVIA Centaur HIV 1/O/2 Enhanced Assay. The manufacturer is discontinuing the current HIV-1 test. The new HIV 1/O/2 assay will detect HIV-1 (including Group O) and HIV-2 antibodies. A separate order for the HIV-2 test is no longer available and can be ordered as "HIV 1 and HIV 2 Screen". A sample that is repeatedly reactive by the Centaur HIV 1/O/2 method will have a reflex HIV Western Blot performed.

The new method compared well with the current HIV-1 method and Western Blot assay. Sensitivity studies by the manufacturer showed the assay 100% sensitive in detecting HIV-1 (n=1059), HIV-2 (n=197), and HIV-1 Group "O" (n=10).

- **Sample Requirement:** One full 5 or 7 mL Serum Separator (gold) or Serum (red) tube. **Cord blood is not an acceptable specimen.**

- **Routine Testing:** Performed Monday through Friday – 0800-1500

- **Reference Interval:** nonreactive

The consent process remains unchanged. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. Stuart Cohen (762-6021), Dr. Sridevi Devaraj (734-6594), Kathy Omand, (734-3049) or Lynda Braun (734-2544)

APPROVED BY:

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