NOTICE OF CHANGE OF SERVICE

DATE: January 23, 2009
TO: Housestaff and PCN Physicians, Faculty, and Nursing Personnel
FROM: Sridevi Devaraj, Director, Special Chemistry and Toxicology
       Chris Jarvinen, Core Lab Manager
RE: Fetal Lung Maturity Testing

Effective immediately, there will be a new algorithm with Fetal Lung maturity testing:

1. L/S ratio testing is no longer available. It was offered through Quest Diagnostics locally, but they discontinued the test. It has been replaced by the FLM test at Quest.
2. Changes in the Fetal Lung Profile (FLP):
   a. It now consists of a PG plus a reflex FLM. It is orderable in EMR as "PHOSPHATIDYLGLYCEROL RFLX FLM".
   b. If the PG is Positive, testing is complete.
   c. If the PG is negative, the specimen will be sent to Quest for a reflex FLM.
   d. In EMR, the synonyms are FLP, FETAL LUNG PROFILE, and PG.
   e. The EMR changes will be effective 1/27/09.

The PG is done by the clinical lab on a STAT basis, 24 hours a day. If needed the FLM will be sent locally to Quest Diagnostics, and will be done on a STAT basis there, Monday through Saturday only. It is usually completed within 1 hour of when they receive the specimen.

Studies have verified the FLM test by Abbott is equivalent or superior to L/S ratio testing.¹

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS: No change.

APPROVED BY: Lydia P. Howell, MD
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