Effective September 16, 2014, the clinical laboratory will switch methodologies for the AFP (Alpha-fetoprotein) Cancer Marker assay. The switch will be from the Siemens ADVIA Centaur Chemiluminescent Immunoassay to the Abbott ARCHITECT i1000 Chemiluminescent Microparticle Immunoassay (CMIA). In comparison studies between the two methods, the ARCHITECT AFP Cancer Marker values were just slightly lower than the Centaur values throughout most of the linear range. At the high end of the linear range, the ARCHITECT values appear to be slightly higher than the Centaur values.

In order to provide some baselining of results, once we begin patient testing using the Architect assay, we will also provide the Centaur result in a comment attached to the AFP Cancer Marker result. For 3 months we will baseline patients that were previously tested by the Centaur method. Sufficient sample volume must be submitted for dual testing – 0.5 mL.

Sample Requirements

Collect: SST (gold top) or plain red top serum, 4 mL

Patient Preparation: None

Storage/Transport: Deliver at room temperature to the laboratory for processing. If sample cannot be delivered to the laboratory within 8 hours of collection, centrifuge sample and transport separated serum refrigerated at 2-8°C.

Stability: Separated serum - 24 hrs RT, refrigerated 2-8°C for up to 7 days, or frozen at -20°C for longer storage.

Minimum volume: 0.5 mL serum; (absolute minimum – only pipettable once – 0.2 mL).

Unacceptable Conditions: samples other than serum or samples not held at correct temperature.

Reference Interval:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male &amp; Female (ng/mL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 – 30 d</td>
<td>50.0 – 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 – 3 mo</td>
<td>40.0 – 1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 mo – 18 y</td>
<td>&lt;2.0 – 12.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Routine Testing: Tue & Fri dayshift, Special Chemistry at the STC location.

If you have questions or need additional information please contact Laboratory Client Services at 734-7373.