

## LABORATORY SERVICES UPDATE

Please note the following test updates. Make the changes in your Interpath Service Manual if appropriate. Contact Client Services at 800-700-6891 for additional information.

Test #	Test Name	Changes/New Information	Effective Date
2360	EbV (IgG and IgM)	Reference Range: <10 Au/mL: Negative 10-20 Au/mL Equivocal >20 Au/mL: Positive	January 1, 2004
		New Plastic Vacutainer Tubes See Over for Conversion Chart	January 1, 2004

Test #	Test Name	Previous Schedule	Test Schedule Effective January 1, 2004
2330	Lymes Ab	Tue, Thu	Tue, Fri
2333	Mitochondrial Ab	Tue, Thu	Tue, Fri
2349	Smooth Muscle Ab	Tue, Thu	Tue, Fri
2360	EBV	Mon, Wed, Fri	Tue, Thu
2381	CMV	Mon, Wed, Fri	Tue, Thu
2171	Toxo	Mon, Wed, Fri	Tue, Thu
2369	Scleroderma	Tue, Thu	Mon, Wed, Fri
2399	Histone	Tue, Thu	Mon, Wed, Fri
2461	ANCA	Tue, Thu	Mon, Wed, Fri
2372	Anti-ENA	Tue, Thu	Mon, Wed, Fri

### Influenza Update

Interpath Laboratory has compiled the following influenza data from September 1, 2003 through December 13, 2003 in the regions of Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon and Southern Idaho.

- 72% tested negative for influenza A or B
- 28% tested positive for influenza
  - 76.8% were undifferentiated between type A or B
  - 19.0% were confirmed type A
  - 4.2% were confirmed type B

CDC website for comparative results can be found at:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm>

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## New Plastic Vacutainer Tubes

<u>Description</u>	<u>Old Sizes</u>	<u>New Sizes Available</u>	<u>Common Usage</u>
SST (No additive)	6mL, 8.5mL	5mL, 7.5mL	Most chemistry, hepatitis, & immunology tests
Red (No additive)	7mL, 10mL, 15mL	6mL, 10mL	Therapeutic drug levels
Lavender (EDTA)	2mL, 3mL 5mL	2mL, 3mL 4mL	Hematology (CBC), HbA1C
Lt. Blue (Sodium Citrate)	1.8mL, 2.7mL 4.5mL	1.8mL, 2.7mL	Coagulation tests (Protime, PTT, Factor analysis)
Pink (EDTA)		6mL	Blood Banking – Prenatal antibody screens, blood types and cross match
Grey (Sodium fluoride/K+)		4mL	Glucose, alcohol
Green (Sodium or Lithium Heparin)		4mL	Chemistry

### Important Notes:

- No additive tubes now have a clot activator to speed the clotting process and therefore tubes should be inverted 4-6 times when drawn.
- **PINK top tubes are the only plastic tubes approved by the FDA for blood bank testing**, please do not submit plastic red tops for blood banking tests such as Blood types, Prenatal antibody screens or cross matches.
- **Light blue (Sodium citrate) tubes are no longer available in 4.5mL size**, if multiple clotting tests are ordered be sure to draw sufficient tubes to provide volumes needed for each order. As always these tubes must be filled completely to ensure accurate results.
- Lavender tubes – small dimension pediatric tubes are not available but the volume of blood and amount of vacuum are adjusted in the 2mL and 3mL tubes and should be used for smaller volume draws.
- There has been no change in Royal blue tubes; they will continue to be glass as plastic is not acceptable for trace element testing.
- **Centrifuge Warning** – mixing plastic tubes and glass tubes in the centrifuge may result in tube breakage – be sure that tubes are balanced properly and matched by type – glass or plastic.