

Subject: HIV 1 and 2 Screen (HIV) Test Enhancements

Effective Date: 4/020/2009

Explanation of Change:

NWCL has automated HIV 1 and 2 screen testing. It is now performed daily (Mon-Sun).

STAT results are available within 70 minutes from the time of receipt in the laboratory. Routine turn around time is 24 hours. Thank you for ordering STAT testing judiciously when medically necessary, due to the high costs to the laboratory and healthcare system.

The HIV test performed in the laboratory is a screening test for serum, plasma, or cadaveric serum specimens and is used as an aid in the diagnosis of infection with HIV-1 and/or HIV-2.

Samples that test positive will be retested in duplicate from the primary sample tube (no aliquots). If you anticipate needing a confirmation, please draw 5.0 mL if a second draw will be difficult to collect. If either of the repeat tests is positive then the sample will be sent to the University of Washington for confirmation by western blot. All presumptive positives will be handled as a critical value and called to a caregiver. The caregiver will be notified that the sample has been sent out for testing by Western Blot. The result will **not** be called positive.

For further information, please contact:

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