



Update: Procalcitonin Tube Change

Central Illinois Regional change Effective: 8/11/2021

UnityPoint Health Central Illinois Laboratories has a new preferred tube type for [Procalcitonin \(PCT\)](#) testing effective August 11, 2021.

New Preferred Specimen Type: Mint Green Plasma Separator Tube (PST) Gel Lithium Heparin Tube, 4.5mL - Plasma
The collection of plasma on the gel barrier will improve sample stability for this testing.



Post Collection: Immediately after collection, please immediately invert 8-10 times to properly mix the anticoagulant with blood. Centrifuge within 2 hours of collection and refrigerate at 2-8°C. The specimen will be stable for up to 48 hours when stored refrigerated on the gel. If longer storage is required, separate a plasma aliquot and freeze for up to 6 months at -25±6°C. It is important to note consecutive procalcitonin testing on patients should be performed on the same specimen type.

This tube cannot be shared or used with any other add-on testing.

Supplies for clinics have been added to the online order form found on the [Test Directory](#) main page.

Test Name	Epic Code	SQ Code
Procalcitonin	LAB2677	PROCLT

No Test Code Changes

Methodology Change: H. Pylori Stool Antigen

Central Illinois Regional change Effective: 8/16/2021

UPH Methodist laboratory will be changing methods for [H. pylori stool antigen](#) testing on August 16, 2021. The updated method will be a fluorometric based technology, improving the limit of detection to 2 ng/mL. There will be no change to our test order code (LAB397), specimen collection or transport requirements. Please continue to utilize our test directory for current collection and stability information.

Test Name	Epic Code	SQ Code
H. Pylori Stool Antigen	LAB397	SHPAG

No Test Code Changes

Regional Standardized Reference Range Urine Protein/Creatinine Ratio

Central Illinois Regional change Effective: 08/12/2021

In effort to standardize reference ranges across the Central Illinois region, [Urine Protein/Creatinine Ratio](#) will have a new reference range effective August 12, 2021.

New Reference Range and Units:

< /= 0.3 mg/mg.

Testing was previously reported out as mg/L.

Test Name	Epic Code	SQ Code
Urine Protein/Creatinine Ratio	LAB743	New: UTPCRR

Epic Code Unchanged; New SQ Code

AFB Culture Reference Laboratory Change

Central Illinois Regional change Effective: 07/19/2021

As of Monday July 19, 2021, the reference laboratory performing [AFB cultures](#) changed from Mayo Medical Laboratories to the UnityPoint Health Pathology Laboratory in Des Moines. The cultures will be updated weekly and the direct smears will be performed daily. AFB cultures that are collected on the weekend will be processed on Mondays causing a slight delay for the AFB smears results.

The new Epic Order code is [LAB877](#).

Test Name	Epic Code	SQ Code
AFB Culture	LAB877	New: CAFB

New Epic Code & New SQ Code

Additional Updated Test Code(s)

Test Name	Epic Code	SQ Code	Effective Date
Creatinine Clearance	Unchanged:	New: UCCLR	8/12/2021

Limited Availability of Trichomonas Vaginalis PCR Urine Testing

UnityPoint Health is continuing to work closely with manufactures and vendors to resolve availability of testing media for Trichomonas Vaginalis Urine PCR testing. Please see the latest update from 7/15/2021 by [Clicking Here](#).