MEMORANDUM #122

TO: UNC Hospitals Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Nursing Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM: Catherine A. Hammett-Stabler, Ph.D., DABCC, FACB
Director of Core Laboratories, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

Herbert C. Whinna, M.D., Ph.D.
Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

Stephanie Mathews, M.D.
Director, Hematology and Urinalysis, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

Gerald A. Hladik, M.D.
Professor of Medicine, UNC Kidney Center

SUBJECT: Removal of Hansel’s Stain Urine/Fluid from UNC Hospital’s Testing Menu

DATE: April 23, 2015

Effective May 1, 2015 the test Hansel’s Stain for Eosinophils in Urine/Fluid will be removed from the test menu and no longer be offered at UNC Hospitals on recommendation by Nephrology and McLendon Clinical Laboratories.

This decision is in recognition of studies and data concluding that the urine eosinophil count by Hansel’s stain has poor performance in the exclusion or diagnosis of drug-induced acute interstitial nephritis(1).

Instead of using the Hansel’s stain of the urine, we favor a detailed review of the urinary sediment by Nephrology consultation service for the evaluation of possible acute interstitial nephritis. Kidney biopsy remains the definitive diagnostic test for confirmation of AIN.

For questions relating to this change, please contact Christopher Parker in the Core Laboratory at 984-974-2361 or Nephrology/Hypertension (Med B Service).