



MEMORANDUM #66

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

FROM: *JS* John Schmitz, Ph.D., Director, Flow Cytometry Laboratory
EW Eric Weimer, Ph.D., Associate Director, Flow Cytometry Laboratory
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DATE: May 18, 2016

SUBJECT: HLA-B27 Testing

Effective May 23, 2016 the flow cytometry laboratory will no longer offer the HLA-B27 screening assay by flow cytometry. The test, B27 by Flow Cytometry (LAB5917, EAP-83000919) will be inactivated and no longer orderable. HLA-B27 testing will be performed by the HLA Laboratory using a real-time PCR based method. The new test is orderable as:

HLA-B27 Antigen (LAB869, EAP 83000057).

The HLA-B27 test requires one yellow top (ACD) tube or one green top (heparin) tube of blood. Testing will be performed at least once per week depending upon sample volume received. The results will be reported as HLA-B27 positive or HLA-B27 negative.

This change was instituted in order to comply with revised quality control requirements mandated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services.

For questions, please contact Dr. John Schmitz (984-974-1452) or Dr. Eric Weimer (984-974-1451) for any questions.