



Memorandum HBR Lab #1

To: UNCMC Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Nursing Coordinators,
Department Heads and Supervisors

From: *HCU* Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD
Medical Director, UNCMC McLendon Clinical Laboratories and
UNC Hillsborough Hospital Laboratory

SUC Steven Cotten, PhD
Director of Automated Chemistry, UNC Medical Center

Date: April 29, 2021

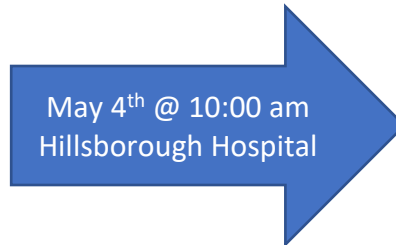
Subject: Change from Serum to Lithium Heparin Collection Tubes for Default
Chemistry Testing at Hillsborough Hospital

On Tuesday **May 4, 2021** starting at **10:00 am**, the Hillsborough Hospital laboratory will go live with new chemistry instrumentation. This impacts a variety of testing, order sets, collection tubes, and reference ranges in Epic as the laboratory modernizes and standardizes Chemistry analyzers across the healthcare system.

For non-laboratory staff, the most notable change will be that the default specimen type will switch from serum to plasma for the majority of routine chemistry testing. **Please look carefully at the label printed by EPIC for the correct green top lithium heparin tube!**

Current: Gold Top Serum Separator (SST)

New: Green Top Lithium Heparin



Preferred (most tests) Acceptable

A major advantage to the new specimen/tube type is that plasma tubes do not need to clot for 30 minutes prior to centrifugation.

Testing not performed at Hillsborough will be sent to Rex until the UNC Medical Center also adopts this new instrumentation in July 2021.

For questions related to these changes, please contact

Director of Automated Chemistry, UNC Medical Center: Steven.Cotten@unchealth.unc.edu

Medical Director, UNC Hillsborough Hospital Laboratory: Herbert.Whinna@unchealth.unc.edu