Memorandum: Molecular Genetics #43

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

From: Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD
Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

Karen Weck, MD
Director, Molecular Genetics Laboratory

Shannon Gray, PhD
Director, Molecular Genetics Laboratory

Date: December 12, 2025

Subject: **Test Down - SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY (SMN 1/2) DNA ASSAY [LAB11165A]**

Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMN ½) DNA Assay [LAB11165A] is temporarily unavailable in-house due to assay performance issues with the Asuragen AmplideX *SMN1/2* Plus assay.

Ordering does not need to change. Providers may continue to order LAB11165A and testing will be converted to the appropriate send-out order upon receipt in the laboratory depending on the indication for the testing:

- Carrier screen testing will be routed to Natera for the Horizon SMA test.
- Diagnostic testing will be routed to ARUP Laboratories for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Copy Number Analysis with an expected turnaround time of 7 to 14 days. Please contact the Molecular Genetics Laboratory regarding any urgent diagnostic testing needs

With questions, please contact Dr. Shannon Gray
Shannon.Gray@unhcealth.unc.edu 984-974-1825