

Legacy Laboratory Services

Legacy LabAlert

November 2020

An Important Update from Legacy Laboratory Services

UPDATE: Protein Electrophoresis & Immunofixation Reporting

Effective **November 17th, 2020**, Legacy Laboratory Services will implement two major changes to Protein Chemistry testing. First, we will offer new Electrophoresis and Immunofixation orderables in order to simplify the test selection process for healthcare providers. Second, we re-designed our reports to be more user friendly based on suggestions from our healthcare providers and clients. Specimen requirements and reference ranges will remain the same. Changes are summarized below:

1. **Serum and urine orderables will be consolidated to two and four**, respectively, without removing available testing services from our menu. For more information about these orderables, refer to Tables 1 and 2.
2. **Serum Immunoglobulins G, A, and M (IGG, IGA, and IGM) will no longer be included automatically with serum Immunofixation (Immunoelectrophoresis) testing** (New mnemonic: IFE S, Table 1). A new panel, *Immunoglobulins (IgG, IgA, and IgM), Quantitative*, will be available separately (New Test Mnemonic: IG GAM). This change is consistent with other laboratories performing Immunofixation. In addition, clients will be able to perform their own immunoglobulin testing, if preferred. Specimen requirements for this new panel are available in Table 3.
3. **The new Electrophoresis report will be a separate report with distinct sections for interpretation, specimen type, current results, and series results.** The series results will contain monoclonal spike information for the most recent five specimens collected in the last two years. An example of the new report is available upon request. As a result of these changes:
 - When Immunofixation is performed, monoclonal spikes will be clearly identified and quantified with results located in their own discrete field.
 - When Immunofixation is not performed, monoclonal spikes will be reported as “Beta Spike No ID” or “Gamma Spike No ID”.
 - Images of Electrophoresis and the corresponding densitometry scan will be provided in the new reports.
 - If Immunofixation is performed, a gel image will also be included.



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Table 1: New Orderables for Serum Protein Electrophoresis and Immunofixation

Current Orderables (Prior to 11/17/20)		converted to	New Orderables (Starting 11/17/20)	
Description	Mnemonic		Description	Mnemonic
Protein Electrophoresis, Serum	PELP		Protein Electrophoresis, Serum, with Indication if Reflex is Desired	PELP S
Protein Electrophoresis with Reflex to Immunofixation, Serum	PELP R		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Immunofixation is NOT required, select No for "IFE if Indicated?" If reflex to Immunofixation is required, select Yes for "IFE if Indicated?" 	
Immunoelectrophoresis, Serum	IEP		NOTE: If indicated "Yes", Immunofixation will be reflexed for any pattern with a monoclonal spike, regardless of patient history.	
			Immunofixation, Serum	IFE S

Table 2: New Orderables for Urine Protein Electrophoresis and Immunofixation

Current Orderables (Prior to 11/17/20)		converted to	New Orderables (Starting 11/17/20)	
Description	Mnemonic		Description	Mnemonic
Urine Protein Electrophoresis, Random	U PELP R		Protein Electrophoresis, Random Urine, with Indication if Reflex is Desired	PELP U R
Urine Protein Electrophoresis, Random with Reflex	U PELP RR		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Immunofixation is NOT required, select No for "IFE if Indicated?" If reflex to Immunofixation is required, select Yes for "IFE if Indicated?" 	
Urine Protein Electrophoresis, Timed	U PELP T		NOTE: If indicated "Yes", Immunofixation will be reflexed for any pattern with a monoclonal spike, regardless of patient history.	
Urine Protein Electrophoresis, Timed with Reflex	U PELP TR		Protein Electrophoresis, Timed Urine, with Indication if Reflex is Desired	PELP U TM
Urine Immunoelectrophoresis, Random	U IEP R		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Immunofixation is NOT required, select No for "IFE if Indicated?" If reflex to Immunofixation is required, select Yes for "IFE if Indicated?" 	
Urine Immunoelectrophoresis, Timed	U IEP T		NOTE: If indicated "Yes", Immunofixation will be reflexed for any pattern with a monoclonal spike, regardless of patient history.	Immunofixation, Random Urine
			Immunofixation, Timed Urine	IFE U TM

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Table 3: Specimen Requirements for New Immunoglobulin Panel (IG GAM)		
Name	Immunoglobulins (IgG, IgA, IgM), Quantitative	
Mnemonic	IG GAM	
Includes	Immunoglobulin G, Immunoglobulin A, Immunoglobulin M	
Collect	Serum, one 5.0 mL gold (SST) or 7.0 mL red top tube	
Handling	Allow serum to clot completely at room temperature (minimum for SST: 30 minutes and red top tubes – 60 minutes). Centrifuge and separate serum from cells within 1 hour of collection.	
Preferred Volume	1.5 mL Serum	
Minimum Volume	1.0 mL Serum (2.5 mL <i>minimum whole blood draw</i>)	
Transport	Refrigerated (2-8 °C)	
Rejection Criteria	Grossly hemolyzed and lipemic specimens	
Serum Stability	Room Temperature (18-26°C)	8 hours
	Refrigerated (2-8°C)	7 days
	Frozen (< -20°C)	3 months if frozen within 24 hours of collection (avoid repeated freeze/ thaw cycles)
Performed	Monday - Fri	
Reported	24-72 hours	
Method	Nephelometer	
Reference Range	Age adjusted ranges available. Refer to specific tests in test table for more information.	
CPT Codes	IgG: 82784, IgA: 82784, IgM: 82784	

For additional information, please contact your account representative, client services or consult our website:

Legacy Laboratory Client Services: 503-413-1234, 877-270-5566, www.legacyhealth.org/labservices