



Fecal Occult Blood Standardization of Test Ordering

Effective Monday October 1st, fecal occult blood test ordering will change in Epic and in Sunquest due to laboratory standardization efforts across UnityPoint Health.

Background

Currently, between all UnityPoint Health Laboratories, there are 17 different test codes in our laboratory system for occult blood testing. The presence of multiple order codes for the same laboratory test results in poor utilization of laboratory computer staff to maintain these test codes and contributes to ordering confusion for providers that practice at multiple UPH locations as these tests reports are not the same (standardized) throughout our laboratories.

The Clinical Laboratories across UnityPoint Health identified Fecal Occult Blood testing as our first effort to standardize testing. Testing standardization will only occur where the effort to standardize doesn't negatively impact the clinical appropriateness for our patient populations (ordering and reporting) and the change doesn't place a process burden on any laboratory.

Ordering Changes

On October 1st, the following four (4) tests for fecal occult blood will be available for ordering. Our Laboratories offer two (2) different testing methodologies for detecting fecal occult blood – guaiac or immunochemical. In addition, each methodology will now have an orderable for annual colon cancer screening for appropriate populations or for patients that present with signs or symptoms that testing is needed to determine a diagnosis.

gFOBT (Guaiac Fecal Occult Blood Testing)

- Fecal Occult Blood, **Screening** Guaiac 1-3 Specimens Epic: LAB694
- Fecal Occult Blood, **Diagnostic** Guaiac 1-3 Specimens Epic: LAB7272

FIT (Fecal Immunochemical Testing)

- Fecal Occult Blood, **Screening** Immuno 1-3 Specimen Epic: LAB4079
- Fecal Occult Blood, **Diagnostic** Immuno 1-3 Specimen Epic: LAB4080

Welcome to **In the Loop**, the newsletter from UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Laboratories.

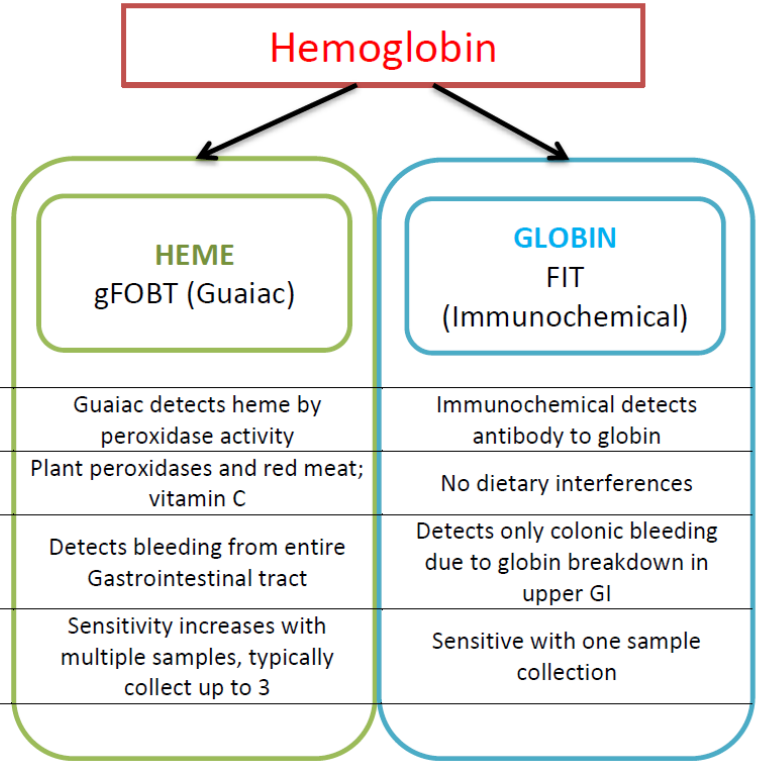
The purpose of this newsletter is to distribute valuable information to our service area, including new test availability, test updates regarding methodology, specimen collection, and normal values.

We may also include feature topics related to laboratory diagnostics and test utilization.

If you have suggestions for topics you would like to read about in the newsletter, please email Kimberly.VonAhsen@unitypoint.org

Guaiac vs Immunochemical: What is the difference?

A brief overview of some of the most common aspects of the fecal occult blood testing using guaiac methodology or immunochemical methodology.



New Epic Orderable Lab Tests

The following tests are now available in Epic as orderable test codes; these have previously been available to order as a Misc Lab Mayo [LAB2608].

If you have saved these as Misc Lab Mayo in your Pref List or Favorites, please update with the new orderable codes.

Epic Lab Number	Test Name	Sunquest Code	Clinical Significance
LAB1071	Porphobilinogen, Quantitative, Random, Urine Epic Name:	PBGUM	First-order test for evaluation of a suspected acute porphyria: acute intermittent porphyria, hereditary coproporphyria, and variegate porphyria. Mayo Medical Laboratories [LINK]
LAB3461	Arbovirus Antibody Panel, IgG and IgM, Serum Epic Name:	ARBOPM	Aiding the diagnosis of arboviral encephalitis (California [LaCrosse], St. Louis, Eastern equine and Western equine encephalitis). Mayo Medical Laboratories [LINK]