

MEMORANDUM

September 30, 2014

Effective April 1st, 2015, the CA 27.29 tumor marker test will be replaced with CA 15-3.

CA 15-3 and CA 27.29 are well-characterized assays that allow the detection of circulating MUC-1 antigen in peripheral blood. (CA 27.29 is an epitope on the protein core of the MUC-1 mucin glycoprotein that is molecularly similar to the one recognized by the DF3 monoclonal antibody used in the CA 15-3 assay).

The recommendation for monitoring is a consistent use of either CA 15-3 or CA 27.29 (not both).

In preparation for the conversion, The Pathology Center will begin providing re-base lining of CA 27.29 results by reporting both the CA 27.29 and the corresponding CA 15-3 result for all CA 27.29 tests ordered. The corresponding CA 15-3 will be ordered at no charge. Re-base lining will begin on October 1st. After this 6-month period (April 1st, 2015), only CA 15-3 will be orderable. The CA 15-3 assay is performed in our laboratory and will provide better turnaround time and cost efficiency.

Please direct any questions to Dr. George Bedrnicek (402)955-5528 or Dr. Tom Williams, The Pathology Center Medical Director (402)354-4559.
