

To: Penn Medicine Physicians and Staff

Date: 1/06/2020

From: Alexander S. R. Macnow, MD
Joyce Gonzalez, BS, M(ASCP)

Re: Daratumumab interference with Serum Protein Electrophoresis and Immunofixation
Electrophoresis Assays.

Daratumumab is a treatment used for some patients with multiple myeloma. As an IgG kappa anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody, daratumumab may be detected on Serum Protein Electrophoresis (SPEP) and Immunofixation (IFE) assays. This interference may cause false-positive SPEP/IFE assay results. The Immunology laboratory has now added a specific question asking whether the patient is currently being treated with daratumumab when this assay is requested. This will allow for more accurate interpretation of the assay and the inclusion of appropriate disclaimers, as necessary.

For clinical questions related to this change, please contact the Chemistry Resident at 215-980-9770. For operational questions related to this change, please contact Joyce Gonzalez at Joyce.Gonzalez@pennmedicine.upenn.edu or 215-662-6023.