

To: UPHS Physicians and Staff

From: Daniel Herman, HUP Endocrinology Director
Nancy Mayer, HUP Endocrinology Supervisor
Amy Reiprish-Tojino, HUP Associate Administrative Director

Date: 3/14/2023

RE: Changes to specimen collection for HUP homocysteine testing

Effective 3/14/2023, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) laboratory will be changing the preferred collection tube for homocysteine to serum separator tube (SST) from EDTA plasma. These specimens must still be collected on ice. Note, we will continue to accept EDTA plasma if received.

Please order this test using the revised name of "Total Homocysteine" rather than "Total Plasma Homocysteine". The test's results are comparable, so we recommend no change to result interpretation.

For clinical questions related to this change, please contact laboratory supervisor Nancy Mayer (Nancy.Mayer@pennmedicine.upenn.edu).