DATE: May 29th, 2020

TO: Attending Medical Staff, House Staff, Nursing, Clinics

FROM: Dr. Amy Saenger, Medical Director, Clinical Laboratories

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Antibody Testing

Effective June 2nd, 2020 COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) serology antibody testing will be performed within the HCMC clinical laboratory with a 1-2 hour turnaround time. The Roche assay we will be using detects high-affinity antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 in the blood, which are primarily IgG antibodies but also include IgM and IgA. Qualitative results will be reported as “Non-Reactive” or “Reactive” and include a quantitative index result with an interpretive comment.

This antibody test (blood test) provides information around whether or not an individual was previously exposed to COVID-19. Antibody testing does NOT, at this point, predict immunity and a positive result does NOT tell you if you are safe from getting infected again. Antibody testing also does not determine if an individual may return to work after COVID-19 infection.

**Relevant ordering and reporting information:**

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| EPIC Order Name/Number | COVID 19 Antibodies (LAB0001957) |
| Specimen Types | Serum (preferred); Plasma (LiHep, EDTA) |
| Antibody Reference Range | Non-Reactive |
| Antibody Index Reference Range | < 1.0 |

**Non-Reactive Interpretation:**

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) antibodies not detected. Non-reactive, or negative, results do not rule out current or recent COVID-19 infection within the last 14-21 days. Follow-up testing with a molecular test is recommended in symptomatic patients.

**Reactive Interpretation:**

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) antibodies detected. Reactive, or positive, results suggest exposure or prior infection with SARS-CoV-2, but do not necessarily indicate protective immunity. Results should not be used to diagnose or rule out current or recent COVID-19 infection. False positive results may occur infrequently due to prior infection with other human coronaviruses.

The Roche SARS-CoV-2 antibody assay has been authorized by the FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for use by CLIA certified laboratories. Testing will be performed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and results will be available within 1-2 hours from receipt in the laboratory.

Please contact Dr. Amy Saenger (873-8709), Dr. Sara Love (873-2813) or Jennifer Nicholson (Chemistry Supervisor 873-3017) with questions.