

# Legacy Laboratory Services

## Legacy Lab Alert

September 2021

An Important Update from Legacy Laboratory Services

### Serum Protein Electrophoresis Reference Ranges Change

Effective September 21, 2021, Legacy Laboratory Services (LLS) will be updating the serum protein electrophoresis reference ranges due to a change in methods (Table 1). We will be transitioning from our current manual gel electrophoresis method to a new automated capillary electrophoresis method. The ordering mnemonics (**PELP S** and **IFE S**) and most specimen requirements will remain the same. Serum stability will change slightly (refer to Table 2 for more information). The method and reference ranges for urine protein electrophoresis (**PELP U** and **IFE U**) will not change. However, we will only perform **PELP U** three times a week instead of six, which will increase the turn-around-time for urine testing.

Fraction	Current Ranges (Prior to 9/21/2021)	New Ranges (Starts 9/21/2021)
	Helena SPIFE 3000 GEL Electrophoresis System	Sebia Capillarys 3 CAPILLARY Electrophoresis System
Albumin	3.37-4.36	<b>3.77-5.03</b>
Alpha-1	0.14-0.31	<b>0.18-0.36</b>
Alpha-2	0.76-1.24	<b>0.48-1.05</b>
Beta	0.66-1.15	<b>0.57-1.07</b>
Gamma	0.66-1.62	<b>0.63-1.58</b>

NAME	Current (Prior to 9/21/2021)	New (Starts 9/21/2021)
Name	Electrophoresis, Serum Protein (with reflex, if requested)	Electrophoresis, Serum Protein (with reflex, if requested)
Mnemonic	PELP S	PELP S
Includes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total Protein, Serum</li> <li>Protein Electrophoresis, Serum</li> <li>Immunofixation, Serum (if indicated)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total Protein, Serum</li> <li>Protein Electrophoresis, Serum</li> <li>Immunofixation, Serum (if indicated)</li> </ul>
Guidelines	If indicated <b>YES</b> , Immunofixation will be reflexed for <u>any</u> pattern with a monoclonal spike, regardless of patient history.	If indicated <b>YES</b> , Immunofixation will be reflexed for <u>any</u> pattern with a monoclonal spike, regardless of patient history.
Collect	Serum, One 5.0 mL gold (SST) or 7.0 mL red top tube. Fresh samples are recommended.	Serum, One 5.0 mL gold (SST) or 7.0 mL red top tube. Fresh samples are recommended.
Handling	Allow serum to clot completely at room temperature (minimum: SST - 30 minutes and red top tubes - 60 minutes). Centrifuge and separate serum from cells within 4 hours of collection.	Allow serum to clot completely at room temperature (minimum: SST - 30 minutes and red top tubes - 60 minutes). Centrifuge and separate serum from cells within 4 hours of collection.
Preferred Volume	3.0 mL Serum	3.0 mL Serum
Minimum Volume	1.0 mL Serum (2.5 mL minimum whole blood draw)	1.0 mL Serum (2.5 mL minimum whole blood draw)

TABLE 2: Specimen Requirements – Significant differences from previous testing are in red font.		
NAME	Current (Prior to 9/21/2021)	New (Starts 9/21/2021)
Transport	Refrigerated (2-8 °C)	Refrigerated (2-8 °C)
Rejection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hemolyzed specimens</li> <li>Plasma specimens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hemolyzed specimens</li> <li>Plasma specimens</li> </ul>
Stability	Room Temp. (18-26°C)	4 days
	Refrigerated (2-8°C)	2 weeks
	Frozen (< -20°C)	6 months
Performed	Monday – Saturday	Monday – Saturday
Reported	2-5 days	2-5 days
Method	<b>TP:</b> Beckman AU Series Chemistry Analyzer <b>PELP:</b> Helena SPIFE 3000 Gel Electrophoresis System <b>IFE:</b> Helena SPIFE 3000 Gel Electrophoresis System	<b>TP:</b> Beckman AU Series Chemistry Analyzer <b>PELP:</b> <b>Sebia Capillars 3 Capillary Electrophoresis System</b> <b>IFE:</b> Helena SPIFE 3000 Gel Electrophoresis System
CPT Codes	<b>TP:</b> 84155 <b>PELP:</b> 84165 <b>IFE:</b> 86334, if indicated	<b>TP:</b> 84155 <b>PELP:</b> 84165 <b>IFE:</b> 86334, if indicated

For additional information, please contact your account representative, client services or consult our website:  
 Legacy Laboratory Client Services: 503-413-1234, 877-270-5566, [www.legacyhealth.org/labservices](http://www.legacyhealth.org/labservices)