

UNITYPOINT HEALTH - MERITER LABORATORIES
TEST ANNOUNCEMENT

Reported Calculated LDL Cholesterol Result (LDL-C)
All Physicians, Advanced Practice Providers, Nursing, Lab and Clinical Staff

5/29/2026

Effective **June 16, 2026** at 10:00 AM, UPH – Meriter Laboratories will transition the reported calculated LDL cholesterol (LDL-C) result from the Friedewald equation to the modified Sampson equation in accordance with the recommendations of the Lab Clinical Service Group.

This change is being implemented to improve the accuracy of LDL-C estimation, particularly in patients with elevated triglyceride concentrations and at lower LDL-C levels where the Friedewald calculation may inaccurately estimate LDL-C.

- The modified Sampson equation has demonstrated improved analytical performance across a broader triglyceride range and aligns with the 2026 ACC/AHA Guideline on the Management of Dyslipidemia.
- The current equation required reflexing to a direct measurement of LDL-C when the triglyceride level was >400 mg/dL. This practice is not required with the modified Sampson equation.
- The calculated LDL-C using the modified Sampson equation has been shown to more closely match the gold standard method (beta quantification) than the routine direct LDL-C measurement.

Reported Calculated LDL Cholesterol Result (LDL-C)

Lab Test	Epic EAP Sunquest Code	Previous Reporting Details	New Reporting Details
LDL, calculated (Part of Lipid Panel)	LAB18 LIPIDP	LDL and VLDL were previously calculated using the Friedewald equation.	LDL calculation will change to the Modified Sampson equation.

Please refer to the online Meriter Test Menu for up-to-date reference ranges. Please note that new testing details will not be visible in the test menu until go-live on Tuesday, June 16th, 2026.

[Meriter Laboratories Test Directory | Home](#)

If you have any questions, please call the UnityPoint Health - Meriter Laboratories Client Services Department at 608-417-6529 or 1-800-236-0465.