

UNITYPOINT HEALTH – MERITER LABORATORIES

Capillary Sample & Reportable Range Updates

09/10/2026

On Wednesday, 8/19/2026, UPH-Meriter received an Urgent Medical Device Correction notice from the manufacturer of the Radiometer ABL analyzers utilized within the facility. Effective **Tuesday, 9/15/2026 at 1000**, UPH-Meriter will be implementing several changes in response to this notification.

Changes Impacting NICU:

There will be no changes to Epic order codes for testing on the ABL analyzers within the NICU space. Individual analytes that must be removed, listed below, will be blocked from the analyzer and prohibited from resulting to Epic.

	Current Panel	Removed analytes	Updated Panel
Capillary Blood Gas	pH		pH
	pCO2		pCO2
	pO2	pO2	
	sO2	sO2	
	HCO3		HCO3
	Base Excess		Base Excess

Testing Available for Capillary Sample Types on NICU ABLs
• Capillary Blood Gas (pH, pCO2, HCO3, Base Excess) • Ionized Calcium • Hemoglobin • Sodium • Chloride • Glucose

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

Test name	Changes	New Workflow	Lab Test Code
Bilirubin	Discontinued for all sample types	Collect a venous or capillary sample and send to the Lab *There is no test option, point of care or in the Lab, for Cord Blood Bilirubin testing	Bilirubin, Total, Plasma LAB50, TBIL
Potassium	Discontinued for capillary testing	Collect a venous or arterial sample to run on the ABL in the NICU or	
		Collect a venous or capillary sample and send to the Lab	Potassium LAB114, K
Hematocrit	Discontinued for capillary testing	Collect a venous or arterial sample to run on the ABL in the NICU or	
		Collect a venous or capillary sample and send to the Lab	Hematocrit, Blood LAB289, HCRT or Hemoglobin and Hematocrit, Blood LAB753, HGBHT
Lactate	Discontinued for capillary testing	Collect a venous or arterial sample to run on the ABL in the NICU	
Methemoglobin	Discontinued for capillary testing	Collect a venous or arterial sample to run on the ABL in the NICU	
Carboxyhemoglobin	Discontinued for capillary testing	Collect a venous or arterial sample to run on the ABL in the NICU	

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Changes impacting ICU and ED:

Current Workflow	New Workflow	Testing Options
Capillary Sampling Mode Available for use	Capillary sampling mode REMOVED	Draw venous or arterial sample in syringe for testing on ABL
Microtainers for Lactate testing sent to Main Laboratory	Microtainers are no longer accepted by Main Laboratory	Draw dark green or light green tube and send to lab for testing OR draw venous or arterial sample in syringe for testing on ABL

Changes Impacting ALL ABL Instruments (ICU, ED, NICU, LAB):

Test	Epic/SQ Code	Current Reportable Range	New Reportable Range
POC Glucose	POC210, Glucose POC	9-738 mg/dL	18-738 mg/dL
POC Methemoglobin	POC188, Methemoglobin ART PO	1.0-51%	0.5-51%
Lab Methemoglobin	LAB91, MTHGB	1.0-51%	0.5-51%

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