

## Laboratory Testing Update

### ***Lipoprotein (a) Testing brought in-house***

***Effective September 29<sup>th</sup>, Lipoprotein (a) testing that is currently performed at ARUP Laboratories will be performed at Preferred Laboratory Partners (PLP).***

Lipoprotein (a) [Lp(a)] is a non-traditional atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) risk marker. Lp(a) is comprised of a molecule of apo(a) bound to an LDL-like particle. Several medical societies have recommended identifying high Lp(a) levels for ASCVD prevention; however, screening the general population is not recommended. Testing may be considered for patients with a family history of early ASCVD or to refine evaluation for patients at moderate risk. High concentrations may support more aggressive control of other lipoprotein factors. Note that Lp(a) levels vary drastically among individuals and ethnic groups.

The evidence base for specific thresholds defining high risk based on age, sex, and ethnicity is incomplete. The cutoff concentration of 30 mg/dL corresponds to the 75th percentile in a male Caucasian reference population, whereas the European Atherosclerosis Society defines a desirable Lp(a) level of  $\leq 50$  mg/dL. Reference ranges have not been established for this assay for different ethnic populations or disease states.

***PLP will perform this testing daily, Sunday through Saturday, by Particle enhanced immunoturbidimetric assay. The same method and instrument platform are used at ARUP.***

***Specimen requirements are serum (SST) or Lithium Heparin plasma (PST). Temperature stability is 8 hours at 15-25° or 2 days at 2-8°C.***

***PLP Reference Intervals: <30 mg/dL***

***To order the test in EPIC, please use the following: Lipoprotein (a) [LAB3255]***

Please contact Amy Binion, Chemistry Manager, at 859-301-2077 if you need further information.