

News

Clinical Laboratory Test Update

Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) Immunophenotyping - Leukemia and Lymphoma

Effective June 10, 2025, the UCH Clinical Laboratory Flow Cytometry section will utilize the total nucleated cell count criteria below before proceeding with flow cytometry immunophenotyping of CSF samples. In general, CSF flow cytometry has no proven utility when the CSF cell count is very low, but it can be performed for patients with a history of leukemia/lymphoma or abnormal brain imaging that suggests malignancy.

CSF total cell count (10⁶/L):	Flow cytometry performed:
Total nucleated cell count > 5	Yes
Total nucleated cell count ≤ 5	No (unless there is a prior history of leukemia/lymphoma or abnormal brain imaging concerning for malignancy)

A cancelation comment will append to testing not performed due to the criteria above and will indicate “The TNC for CSF sample ≤ 5; IPLL (flow) was canceled per protocol. If patient has history of leukemia/lymphoma or abnormal brain imaging concerning for malignancy, contact lab”.

Please call Dr. C. Kayla Pang at 303-724-2459 if you have any questions or visit our website at <https://www.uchealth.org/professionals/uch-clinical-laboratory/> for additional information.