

CHANGES IN LIPOPROTEIN (a) TESTING AND REFERENCE RANGE

Effective Date: October 4, 2016

Effective October 4, 2016, testing for Lipoprotein (a) or Lp(a) will change. This will result in a change in the reference range as follows:

New Reference Range (mg/dL)

Less than or equal to 30

Old Reference Range (mg/dL)

Less than or equal to 34

Lipoprotein (a) levels are useful in determining whether a patient is at increased risk of developing vascular disease. It is an independent risk factor for the development of coronary heart disease and stroke. Levels are genetically influenced but can vary considerably within a given population. Africans and African Americans have higher levels than Caucasians. It can be transiently decreased by as much as 20% following a myocardial infarction. Growth hormone and cyclosporine therapy have been associated with increased levels. Lp(a) concentrations above 30 mg/dL are associated with a 2-3-fold increased risk of cardiovascular events independent of conventional risk markers (i.e. – increased LDL cholesterol, decreased HDL cholesterol). It is not recommended as a screening test in a healthy population.

Instructions for specimen collection, transport and storage will remain unchanged:

Collection: Collect one gold top SST tube, let specimen clot 30-60 minutes, then centrifuge to separate serum from cells.

Storage: Store and transport specimen refrigerated (2-8 ° C or 36-46 ° F).

Testing: Performed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

If you have questions, please contact Client Services (1-800-551-0488, option 5).

Internal URL to Laboratory Bulletins:

http://employee.beaumont.edu/portal/pls/portal/ip30dev.page_pkg.page?xid=lab_bulletins

External URL to Laboratory Bulletins:

<http://beaumontlaboratory.com/hospitals-laboratories-three/test-information-center/laboratory-bulletins/>

Laboratory Test Directory: <http://beaumontlaboratory.com/test-lab-directory>.

Date submitted: October 7, 2016

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Beaumont Laboratory

Customer Service

1-800-551-0488