

Technical Bulletin

CHANGE IN HEMOLYSIS POLICY FOR AUTOMATED CHEMISTRY/STAT LAB – ROYAL OAK

Effective Date: November 28, 2016

*Effective Monday, November 28, 2016, the Automated Chemistry and STAT Laboratories at Royal Oak will change how hemolyzed samples are handled. Currently, those samples with a free hemoglobin level of equal to or greater than 150 mg/dL are cancelled and a sample redraw is requested. However, not all chemistry tests are affected to the same degree by hemolysis. In fact, most are not affected (either physiologically or analytically) by a free hemoglobin level of up to 500 mg/dL (laboratory in-house data). Therefore, results for these tests will be reported without a comment. For those tests listed below that are affected by free hemoglobin levels between 50 and 500 mg/dL, the Core Lab and STAT Lab will still report results, but they will be flagged with the following message: “**Sample is hemolyzed. Result may be falsely increased.**”*

Core Lab (routine testing):

Potassium, Albumin, AST, CK, GGT, Iron, LD, phosphorus, and uric acid

Exceptions: PLAC Activity will be canceled at any level of hemolysis; acetaminophen will be cancelled at greater than or equal to 200 mg/dL Hgb

STAT Lab:

Potassium, AST, Total bilirubin, CK, phosphorus, and uric acid

Exceptions: Ammonia & beta-hydroxybutyrate will be cancelled at any level of hemolysis.

When the free hemoglobin level is **greater than 500 mg/dL**, testing will be cancelled and a sample redraw requested. Cases of in-vivo hemolysis will be handled on an individual basis.

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>.

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