

### UPDATES TO FLOW CYTOMETRY FOR HEMATOLYMPHOID NEOPLASM, CSF (EPIC ORDER NUMBER- LAB6232)

Effective Date: February 12, 2018

# Laboratory Bulletin

The Beaumont Flow Cytometry Laboratory will institute a revised set of criteria for when flow cytometric analysis will be performed on cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) samples. Currently, flow cytometry is performed on all CSF samples as ordered. Beginning February 12, 2018, flow cytometry will be automatically performed ONLY if one of the two following criteria is met:

- 1) Atypical/suspicious lymphocytes or blasts are detected by cytopathology or hematology review
- 2) The patient has a history of prior hematologic malignancy

Cases that do not meet one of the above criteria will be cancelled; however, flow cytometric analysis on these cancelled specimens can be obtained with the approval of the Flow Cytometry Laboratory Medical Director or supervising Hematopathologist.

It should be noted that this change in policy refers to the performance of flow cytometry only. This policy will not impact the current procedures for testing in other areas such as cytopathology (cytology), hematology or microbiology.

Background Information: Studies have demonstrated that, in the absence of one of these two criteria, flow cytometry has a low yield for the detection of hematologic malignancy (reference- *Am J Clin Pathol* 2014;141:515). A critical review of all CSF orders over a 6 month period at the Beaumont Flow Cytometry Laboratory confirmed the reports in the literature and support this revised approach to CSF flow cytometric testing.

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

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

---

**Date submitted:** January 23, 2018

**Submitted by:** Vonda Douglas-Nikitin, MD, Medical Director of Flow Cytometry

---

*Beaumont Laboratory*  
Customer Service  
1-800-551-0488