

Body Fluid Cell Count Reporting Change – Test Update

Effective Date: July 12, 2022

Laboratory Bulletin

The College of American Pathologists (CAP) has established a new requirement for reporting of total cell counts:

When absolute total cell counting methods cannot reliably distinguish white blood cells from other nucleated cells, body fluid cell counts, and differential results are reported with the total nucleated cell count and a differential with all nucleated cell types observed.

Some of the absolute total cell counting methods used in the laboratory cannot reliably distinguish white blood cells from other nucleated cells. To be in compliance with this new standard, the laboratory will report the absolute total cell count (cells/mcL) as TNC (total nucleated cells), instead of WBC (total white blood cells).

Trending for patients will not be affected.

Affected tests include:

- Cell Counts (Cerebrospinal Fluid): LAB5243
- Cell Counts (Body Fluids): LAB5244
- Synovial Fluid Analysis: LAB5162

If you have any questions, please contact your Beaumont Laboratory Customer Service Department:

- Farmington Hills, Grosse Pointe, Royal Oak, and Troy: 800-551-0488 or 248-551-1155, Option 5
- Dearborn, Taylor, Trenton, and Wayne: 800-245-3725, Option 1