



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Regional Medical Laboratory Clients

**FROM:** William Fitter, MD, Chief of Clinical Chemistry  
Mary Pille, BS MT (ASCP) SBB, Section Manager of Immunology and Chemistry

**DATE:** September 16, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Change in Reference Range for Gestational Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG)

In an ongoing effort to keep RML clients informed and have uniformity between different assay methods, RML will move to a standardized gestational reference range. There are various sources published with differing reference ranges and there are significant variations of hCG levels among women, irrespective of the gestational stage. The ranges are guidelines, as every woman's level of hCG can increase differently. It is not necessarily the level that matters, but rather the change in level the client should be aware of. The following table reflects the association between gestational age and expected hCG value for the proposed reference range changes.

Gestational age	Expected hCG Values mIU/mL
0.2-1 week	5-50
1-2 week	50-500
2-3 week	100-5,000
3-4 week	500-10,000
4-5 week	1,000-50,000
5-6 week	10,000-100,000
6-8 week	15,000-200,000
2-3 months	10,000-100,000

This will go in to effect September 17, 2013. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact either Dr William Fitter at 918-744-2555, ext 15525, wfitter@sjmc.org or Mary Pille, Manager, Chemistry at 918-744-2555 ext 15788 Mary.Pille@sjmc.org