

MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Medical Laboratory Clients
FROM: Gerald Miller, PhD, Chief of Immunology/Microbiology
 Nikki Garner, MS HCA, Manager Processing/Specimen Resolution/Ref Lab
 Shelli Lamb, MLT, Reference Lab Specialist
DATE: March 31, 2016
SUBJECT: **Discontinued Test – Helicobacter pylori IgA, IgM and group IgG/IgA/IgM Serology Tests**

Effective **June 6, 2016**, the Helicobacter pylori IgA (IGA H PYLO 5579727), Helicobacter pylori IgM (H PYLORI M 5579825) and group test IgG/IgA/IgM (H PYLO GAM 5578977) serology tests will be discontinued by our reference laboratories. These changes support the current diagnostic guidelines recommended by the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) and the American Gastroenterology Association (AGA). Serology testing cannot distinguish between active or past infections with adequate sensitivity or specificity. It has been determined that fecal antigen testing for Helicobacter pylori (HPYLORI AG 3502325) is better suited, and it is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Specimen collection and processing for Helicobacter pylori (HPYLORI AG 3502325) is as follows:

- Collect 1-5 grams unpreserved stool in a leak-proof container.
- Submit frozen specimen
- Stability: Room Temp – 2 hours; Refrigerated – 3 days; Frozen – 1 month
- Unacceptable specimens: Stool in preservative, transport media or swab; watery or diarrheal stool

Previous Procedure Mnemonic	Previous Long Name	Previous Procedure Code	Previous CPT Code
H PYLORI M	H pylori Ab IgM Only	5579825	86677
IGA H PYLO	H pylori Ab, IgA Only	5579727	86677
H PYLO GAM	H pylori Abs IgG, IgA, IgM	5578977	86677x3
New Procedure Mnemonic	New Long Name	New Procedure Code	New CPT Code
HPYLORI AG	Helicobacter pylori Ag, EIA, Stool	3502325	87338

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Gerald Miller, PhD, Nikki Garner or Shelli Lamb at 918.744.2500.