



MEMO

TO: All Regional Medical Laboratory Clients

FROM: Gerald C. Miller, Ph.D., Chief of Immunology & Microbiology
Sonja Mathews, MT (ASCP) SC, Section Manager

DATE: August 14, 2008

SUBJECT: West Nile Virus Testing Change in Methodology

The sole source of West Nile Virus indirect fluorescent antibody (IFA) slides is no longer producing slides. It is necessary for Regional Medical Laboratory to convert to an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (EIA) which is produced by Focus Diagnostics, a pioneer in West Nile Virus testing. The new method provides same sensitivity and specificity as the IFA method.

The conversion to the EIA technology will be effective August 25, 2008.

Test Name: WEST NILE

CPT4 Code: WNV IGM 86788
WNV IGG 86789

Specimen Type: Tiger/gold clot tube

Testing Schedule: Our new testing schedule will be Tuesdays and Thursdays on first shift. Confirmations for WNV IGM will be performed on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Specimen Storage: Specimen is good refrigerated for 48 hours. If testing will be delayed longer than 48 hours, specimen should be centrifuged, serum separated and frozen.

Please call Gerald C. Miller, Ph.D. at (918) 744-2553, Sonja Mathews, MT (ASCP) SC at (918) 744-2500 or 1-800-722-8077 if you have further questions.