

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Regional Medical Laboratory Clients

FROM: Gerald C. Miller, PhD, Chief of Microbiology and Immunology
Mary Pille BS MT (ASCP) SBB, Manager of Immunology and Chemistry

SUBJECT: Syphilis Screen

DATE: October 14, 2014

On October 13, 2014 Regional Medical Laboratory will be replacing its utilization of the RPR (rapid plasma regain, a non-treponemal assay) as the syphilis screening assay with the automated solid phase, one step chemiluminescent immunoassay. The new screening assay tests for the presence of specific IgM and IgG antibody to *Treponema pallidum*, thus not distinguishing whether the antibody activity is due to a recent/active or a past infection. A reverse sequence algorithm will be implemented. All screening chemiluminescent immunoassay reactive patients will reflex to an (RPR)NONTREP AB and titer, if necessary. Additional testing will generate additional charges. Note the attached flow sheet. The test results will be reported as:

Syphilis screen:

Non-reactive

Reactive (reflexes to NONTREP AB)

(RPR)NONTREP AB:

Non-reactive

Reactive (Titer will be reported)

Test Name: **Syphilis Screen**

Order Mnemonic: **SYP AB**

Test # **5500607**

CPT code 86780

LOINC 24110-9

Reflex test: **(RPR) Non Treponemal Antibody**

Order Mnemonic: **NONTREP AB**

TEST# **5500605**

CPT code 86592

LOINC 20507-0

The results reported for the algorithm must always be interpreted in light of the clinical presentation and medical history of the patient. A positive Syphilis antibody test is reported to the state health department.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact

Gerald Miller, PhD. at 918-744-2553, ext 15543, gmler@sjmc.org or

Mary Pille, MT (ASCP), Manager, Immunology at 918-744-2553 ext 15788, Mary.Pille@sjmc.org

Syphilis Testing Algorithm

Regional Medical Laboratory

