Client Update

BioReference LABORATORIES | genpath
OPKO Health Companies

December 2021

Test Name	Test Code	Effective Date
COVID-19; Omicron variant	**TH68**	**N/A**

Genetic variants of SARS-CoV-2 continue to circulate around the world throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. On November 26, the World Health Organization (WHO) designated the **Omicron variant (B.1.1.529)** a variant of concern. On December 1st, the first Omicron variant case was confirmed by the California and San Francisco Departments of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is actively monitoring this variant and its transmission. As of December 6th, the Omicron variant has been identified in: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Utah and Washington. Please visit the CDC COVID-19 website for more information: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/omicron-variant.html

BioReference is closely observing the evolving situation and is prepared to increase test capacity to mid-pandemic levels as the need arises.

Variant Testing
BioReference's **PCR diagnostic tests for SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19** are based on recognizing specific RNA target genes that are common to all coronaviruses. To date, the diagnostic targets have not changed with the novel COVID-19 variants. The changes seem to be occurring within the Spike (S)-gene responsible for the spike protein and other genes unrelated to the diagnostic targets used for making the diagnosis. The Spike protein is responsible for attaching the virus to human cells via the angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) receptor binding protein. It is predominantly the structure of the S-gene protein that has been changing with the different variants. These changes do not interfere with the high throughput RT/PCR assays as these tests all have multiple genomic targets.

Oxidized LDL	**3873**	**January 3**

Please be advised that effective January 3, 2022, **Oxidized LDL** will no longer be available to order, and tests will not be performed if ordered after this date. The alternative suggested test(s) are LDL as part of a cholesterol panel; LDL, Direct (2194); or Apolipoprotein B (0457).

17-Hydroxycorticosteroids with Creatinine 24HR Urine	**0537**	**Effective immediately**

Due to changes made at reference laboratory, test information for **17-Hydroxycorticosteroids with Creatinine 24HR Urine** has been updated. Please refer to the table below for changes

	Previous Test Information	New Test Information
Reference Range	17-OH-Corticosteroid 2.0-6.0mg/24hr Creatinine 0.50-2.15g/24hr	17 OH-Corticosteroids, Urine - mg/g CRT 2.0-6.5 mg/g crt OH-Corticosteroids, Urine - per volume 4.0-14.0 mg/d Creatinine, Urine - per 24h: Male / Female 3-8 years: 140-700 mg/d / 140-700 mg/d 9-12 years: 300-1300 mg/d / 300-1300 mg/d 13-17 years: 500-2300 mg/d / 400-1600 mg/d 18-50 years: 1000-2500 mg/d / 700-1600 mg/d 51-80 years: 800-2100 mg/d / 500-1400 mg/d <81 years: 600-2000 mg/d / 400-1300 mg/d
Components	17-OH-Corticosteroid Creatinine Total Volume	Creatinine, Urine - per volume Creatinine, Urine - per 24h Total Volume Hours Collected 17 OH-Corticosteroids, Urine - mg/g CRT 17 OH-Corticosteroids, Urine - per 24h

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REMINDER - Customer Satisfaction Survey	**N/A**	**Immediately**

LAST CHANCE! Are you in need of wireless earbuds? By completing our 2021 Customer Satisfaction Survey, you will be entered into a drawing for the chance to win a pair. **Don't miss this opportunity to share your feedback about BioReference Laboratories and its subsidiaries.**

Visit https://www.bioreference.com/customersurvey to complete the survey. The survey should only take you about 5 minutes. Your entry will remain separate from your survey responses to protect your anonymity.

Employees of BioReference and their relatives are not eligible to participate.

REMINDER - Scarlet Health™	**N/A**	**Immediately**

Did you know that roughly 30% of patients never fill their prescribed laboratory test orders?[1] They may not be able to take time off of work, arrange childcare, or find someone to drive them to have their specimens collected at a service center or healthcare facility. You can now close this care gap with convenient at-home or at-work specimen collections.

Scarlet Health™ makes the specimen collection process more convenient by coming to your patients at their home or workplace.
Using Scarlet™ is as easy as adding an extra test code to your regular laboratory order. Once ordered, your patients will receive a text and/or email to schedule their own appointments.

Why Choose Scarlet?

- Phlebotomists are trained BioReference employees
- Testing is performed at a BioReference laboratory
- Easy ordering via InsightDx or EMR
- Scarlet can help improve testing compliance by:
  - Enabling much more convenient specimen collection for your patients
  - Potentially reducing your patients' concerns over potential infectious disease exposure
  - Potentially reducing your patients' specimen collection anxiety through familiar and comfortable surroundings

Please contact your dedicated account representative or email hello@scarlethealth.com to get started today. Visit scarlethealth.com/providers for more information.

REFERENCES: 1. PwC Analysis, CMS Medicare FFS claims data, PwC proprietary Commercial data sets, IbisWorld, Lab

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