

SEMC LABORATORY TESTING UPDATES

PT, INR, PTT, and Fibrinogen Coagulation Testing Changes

Please note the following information and share it with your staff.

On **April 1st, 2009** the Clinical Laboratory will be changing analyzers and reagents for prothrombin time (PT), activated partial thromboplastin time (PTT), and fibrinogen testing. Our studies comparing the new test methods with the current test methods show the following:

Reference Ranges

The reference ranges will change for both the PT and PTT.

Test	New Reference Range	Old Reference Range
PT	9.9 – 12.3 sec	11.2 – 13.2 sec
PTT	27.2 – 38.6 sec	20.2 – 31.5 sec
Fibrinogen	213 – 453 mg/dL	145 – 457 mg/dL

Therapeutic Ranges

Therapeutic ranges for the INR (for monitoring Warfarin therapy) will not change. PTT values corresponding to unfractionated heparin concentrations of 0.3 and 0.7 U/mL determined by anti-Xa activity are listed below.

Test	To Monitor	Therapeutic Ranges
INR (PT)	Warfarin	2.0 – 3.0 (moderate intensity) 2.5 – 3.5 (high intensity) Individual patients may require lower or higher ranges.
PTT	Unfractionated heparin	62 - 105 sec (heparin levels of 0.3 and 0.7 U/mL anti-Xa activity)

Alert Values

The alert values will change for the INR, PTT and fibrinogen.

Test	New Alert Value	Old Alert Value
INR	> 5.0	> 4.5
PTT	> 125 sec	> 110 sec
Fibrinogen	< 120 mg/dL	< 100 mg/dL

If you have questions or comments about the above changes, please contact Dr. Pemberton at (859) 301-2357.