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TO: Referred-in Clients
FROM: Jeffery Cuneo, LRC Business Coordinator
DATE: July 9, 2018
SUBJECT: [Glucagon, Plasma](#)

Glucagon Testing Site Change

Effective immediately the referral testing site has changed to Mayo Medical Laboratories. We apologize for not providing advance notice of this change. Our supplier made an immediate and unexpected change to the specimen handling that was incompatible with our ability to utilize their service. The new test details can be found below:

Method: Immunoassay

TAT: 11 Days

Specimen: 2 mL Plasma (EDTA) Lavender top. Minimum Volume: 0.45 mL

Collection and Handling

Collect fasting specimen. Pre-chill tube at 4°C *before* drawing specimen. Draw into the pre-chilled tube, and then chill tube in wet ice for 10 minutes. Centrifuge in a refrigerated centrifuge or in chilled centrifuge cup. Immediately after centrifugation, remove plasma, place in a plastic transport vial and freeze.

Stability: Frozen: 90 Days

Reference Values:

< or =6 hours: 100 – 650 pg/mL
1-2 Days: 70 - 450 pg/mL
2-4 Days: 100 – 650 pg/mL
4-14 Days: Declining gradually to adult levels
> 14 Days: < or = 80 pg/mL (range based on 95% confidence limits)

Comment:

Glucagon levels are inversely related to blood glucose levels at all ages. This is particularly pronounced at birth and shortly thereafter, until regular feeding patterns are established. This explains the higher levels immediately after birth, which then first fall as the glucagon release mobilizes the infant's glucose stores, then rise again as stores are depleted, finally normalizing towards adult levels as regular feeding patterns are established.

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