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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 2, 2016

**TO:** Physicians at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare

**FROM:** Dr. D. Yamamura and Dr. M. Smieja

**CC:** Microbiology Laboratory Staff

**RE:** **New Cryptococcal Antigen Assay**

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Please be advised that effective November 7, 2016, the IMMY lateral flow assay to detect Cryptococcal antigen from serum and cerebrospinal fluid will replace the Meridian cryptococcal antigen assay. The new assay is more rapid and will provide improved turn-around time for patient results. From the literature and the laboratory internal verification, titers will frequently be higher than the results using the previous assay.

The assay specifications are available upon request. If there are any questions, please contact Dr. Yamamura ([yamamura@hhsc.ca](mailto:yamamura@hhsc.ca) or extension 46111) or the microbiologist on call.

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