



January 2018

Dear Healthcare Provider,
The information contained here may be very important to your practice. Please take a moment to review this document.

GLOMERULAR FILTRATION RATE FOR PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

The National Kidney Foundation recommends the creatinine-based “Bedside Schwartz” equation for estimating GFR for children under 19. This formula $[0.413 \times (\text{height in centimeters} \div \text{serum creatinine in mg/dL})]$ incorporates a child’s height and serum creatinine values. The online calculator can be found at https://www.kidney.org/professionals/KDOQI/gfr_calculatorped

NEW FLOW CYTOMETRY ANALYZER

Beginning February 1st, PCL Alverno will move to the FDA approved Beckman Aquios analyzer for Flow Cytometry. The Aquios is an automated platform that adds improved accuracy of the lymphocyte gate by adding a second parameter called Electronic Volume. This improves the purity and recovery of total lymphocytes. The new platform includes the addition of the CD16 fluorescent marker in the lymphocyte B-cell analysis. This provides enhanced detection and enumeration of Natural Killer Cells, an important subpopulation of cells in identifying malignancies. With this move to the Aquios, new reference ranges will apply. See table below for current and new reference ranges:

Reference Range Update		
	New AQUIOS	CURRENT
CD3%	58-84	58-87
CD3 Abs	856-2237	668-2291
CD4%	34-65	28-65
CD4 Abs	518-1472	433-1692
CD8%	13-38	12-40
CD8 Abs	205-924	147-1068
CD19%	6-25	4-25
CD19 Abs	87-507	79-574
CD56%	4-27	2-26
CD56 Abs	74-562	38-561
CD4/CD8 RATIO	0.9-5.0	0.9-5.0
LYMPHOCYTE Abs	1.2-2.9 x1000	0.6-3.4 x1000

WELCOME, NEW CLIENTS! We would like to welcome five new clients in December to the Alverno family! We look forward to serving you and your patients.

Find Us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Google Plus!

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NOROVIRUS UPDATE

REDUCED TURNAROUND TIMES, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 16, 2018

PCL Alverno is pleased to bring Norovirus testing in-house. This assay will detect both Norovirus Groups 1 and 2. Norovirus infections are caused by a highly contagious RNA virus with abrupt symptoms of vomiting and watery, non-bloody diarrhea. While generally self-limiting in 24 to 48 hours, testing is indicated for immunocompromised or hospitalized patients, for infection control purposes, and to limit the use of antibiotics.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:

SPECIMEN AND STABILITY

Fresh Stool, refrigerated – 48 hours
Fresh Stool in Cary Blair Media, refrigerated – 48 hours
Fresh Stool, Frozen – 30 days

CAUSE FOR REJECTION

Formed Stool

METHOD

PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction)

TURNAROUND TIME

Within 8 hours once received in laboratory

CPT CODE*

87798 x2

SOFT CODE**

NOROA

*CPT codes provided are for informational purposes only. Questions regarding coding should be directed to the payor.

**The code in your EMR may differ.

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