



**\*\*\* CLIENT UPDATE \*\*\*  
CHANGE IN  
ANA TESTING  
AtheNA Multi-Lyte Test System**

776 Melrose Avenue . Nashville TN 37211 . phone 615.687.7900 . fax 615.687.7920 . [www.pathgroup.com](http://www.pathgroup.com)

## **AtheNA Multi-Lyte ANA II Test System**

*Effective February 13, 2006*

PathGroup Labs has adopted a new technology for autoimmune testing which provides more objective, higher quality results than traditional methodologies. By using a specialized flow cytometer and patented microbead reagents, the new technology will provide a direct measurement of autoantibodies relevant to ANA testing from a single patient sample. The presence of characterized autoantibodies in conjunction with a positive ANA result and symptomatology can have far greater clinical significance than an uncharacterized ANA result alone. Today IFA patterns are used primarily to guide the physician on which reflex tests to order. Since these tests are performed simultaneously with the ANA screen, if the screen is positive, the physician can add any of the 9 most common autoantibodies and receive the results within 24 hours rather than 2-3 days or call the patient in for another blood collection. We are also offering an ANA screen with reflex to the 5 most common antibodies or an ANA screen with reflex to all nine antibodies.

Current Report	New Report	Additional Tests Performed In House
1:160 Speckled	115	SSA, SSB, Sm, RNP, Scl-70, Jo-1, Centromere B, Histones, DsDNA

In a recent paper, this new technology was compared to the consensus outcome of multiple immunofluorescence and ELISA methodologies. Concordance for this improved ANA methodology was 96% and greater for the 9 markers measured (ANA plus the above listed tests).

Note: When reviewing ANA screen results, you will now be able to add any or all of the above mentioned individual results for one month following original order. We will begin using this new methodology as of February 13, 2006. If you have any questions concerning this memo, please feel free to call our Client Services Department at 615 234 0781 or 1 888 474 5227 or the clinical laboratory at 615 687 7900.

Samuel Smith MD,  
Medical Director  
PathGroup Labs