PathGroup
Physician Centered. Patient Focused.

TEST UPDATE
BETA-HCG TESTING

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OVERVIEW AND CLINICAL UTILITY:

Beginning the week of August 11, 2014, PathGroup Laboratories will change from the current Access Total βhCG assay to the new Access Total βhCG (5th IS) assay. Pathgroup's vendor for Human Chorionic Gonadotropin, Beckman Coulter, recently introduced Access Total 5th IS. The new Total βhCG (5th IS) calibrators are standardized to the World Health Organization (WHO) 5th International Standard (NIBSC Code 07/364). The Access Total βhCG assay is the first βhCG assay to be standardized to the highly purified WHO 5th International Standard. All laboratories that employ the Beckman Access Total βhCG assay must migrate testing practices to this standardized assay. The standardization of the assay increases the quality of resulting, provides improved resiliency to pre-analytical factors, and reference range updates to include women over 40 years of age.

It is anticipated that you will notice a 10-15% positive bias in results, however reference values based on the Access Total βhCG (5th IS) assay will be reported with patient results. There will be no change in the test code. If you would like further information, please call Client Services at 615-562-9300 or 888-474-5227.

TEST METHODOLOGY: Immunoenzymatic

ORDERING:

TEST	TEST NAME	CPT	LOINC
HCGT	Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (βhCG), Serum, Quantitative	84702	19080-1

REFERENCE RANGE: Refer to Directory of Services (DOS).

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND STORAGE:

	IF ORDERING:
HCGT	1) Collect specimen in a serum separator tube (SST). a) Allow serum tube to clot for 30 minutes. b) Spin serum separator tube 10-15 minutes @ 3500 rpm. 2) Transport 1 mL serum (Min: 0.5 mL) in a standard transport tube. **3)** Transport Refrigerated. Stability: Refrigerated- 48 hours.

TEST PERFORMED: Sunday - Saturday **TURNAROUND TIME:** 24-Hours

For further questions, please contact Client Services at 615-562-9300 or 1-888-474-5227