

MONOCLONAL GAMMOPATHY TESTING CHANGES

Epic Test Code: LAB304164 [Protein Electrophoresis, Serum]

EXPLANATION: Guidelines for diagnosing and monitoring multiple myeloma and other plasma cell dyscrasias promote the combined use of serum electrophoresis testing and serum free light chains (sFLC) measurement. In order to improve guideline adherence and facilitate testing for monoclonal gammopathies, a new system-wide test “**Monoclonal Gammopathy Profile with Immunotyping Reflex**” (LAB1231029) will replace “**Protein Electrophoresis, Serum**” (LAB304164) on the effective date. Facility lists, preference lists and order sets will be updated accordingly.

The new profile combines serum protein electrophoresis and sFLC tests (kappa and lambda free light chain quantities with ratio). Total protein and albumin are tested at no cost as part of serum electrophoresis testing. Immunotyping is reflexively performed following review of these studies by the interpreting clinical pathologist. Immunotyping studies are most commonly performed to:

- Detect a new monoclonal (M protein).
- Characterize changes in sFLC results that suggest clonality, which includes cases where a M protein is not clearly seen by electrophoresis.
- Evaluate patients with hypercalcemia, renal damage, bone changes (pathologic fractures, lytic lesions, suspected AL amyloidosis, etc.) at high risk for a monoclonal gammopathy.
- Study changes in migration patterns (e.g., “loss,” “re-appearance,” or change in migration) of a previously characterized M protein.

Serum free light chains testing (LAB3041008) will remain separately orderable for instances where monitoring between electrophoresis studies is needed.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS TESTING

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QUESTIONS

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE: [WVUH Test Catalog](#)