



August 15, 2006

RE: [Emergency test change notification](#)

Dear Valued Client:

The following pages detail important information regarding a number of tests requiring database modifications. **Please be advised that these are urgent changes due to a manufacturer discontinuation. These changes are effective August 21, 2006.**

Please use this packet of information to update your computer systems/records. These changes are important to ensure standardization of our mutual laboratory databases.

We apologize if this causes you any inconvenience. If you have any questions about the information contained in this packet, please call our Client Support Department at (866) 522-2206. Thank you for your continued support of NMS Labs and your assistance in implementing these changes.

Sincerely,

NMS Labs

Database Changes - Summary

Categories:				
I:	Method/CPT Code, Units, Scope of Analysis and Specimen Requirements			
II:	Deleted tests			
III:	Reference comment changes			
Test Code	Test Name	Category		
		I	II	III
0936R	Calcium Unwashed, RBCs	•		
0938B	Calcium, Blood	•		
0938R	Calcium, RBCs	•		
0938SP	Calcium, Serum/Plasma	•		
0940P	Calcium Survey, Plasma	•		
0940R	Calcium Survey, RBCs	•		
2550P	Magnesium Survey, Plasma	•		
2550R	Magnesium Survey, RBCs	•		
2551B	Magnesium, Blood	•		
2551R	Magnesium, RBCs	•		
2551SP	Magnesium, Serum/Plasma	•		
3066B	Mineral Profile, Blood	•		
3066R	Mineral Profile, RBCs	•		
3066SP	Mineral Profile, Serum/Plasma	•		
3067R	Minerals Panel 6, RBCs	•		
6153R	Metals Panel 1, RBCs	•		
6365R	Inorganic Panel 8, RBCs	•		

NMS Labs

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Changes effective:
August 21, 2006

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TEST CHANGES – CATEGORY I

Method/CPT Code, Units of Measurement, Scope of Analysis and Specimen Requirements

Test Code	Test Name	Method/CPT Code Changes	Unit Changes
0938B	Calcium, Blood		
Specimen Requirements	2 mL Heparin Blood		
Collection Notes	Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
0938R	Calcium, RBCs		
Specimen Requirements	2 mL RBCs		
Collection Notes	Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
0938SP	Calcium, Serum/Plasma		
Specimen Requirements	2 mL Serum or Heparin Plasma		
Collection Notes	For Plasma, collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. For Serum, collect 6 mL Blood using a royal blue top tube without anticoagulant. Red top tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate Serum or Plasma into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. The use of serum separator tubes is not acceptable. Submission of a serum separator tube will result in cancellation. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
0940P	Calcium Survey, Plasma		
Specimen Requirements	2 mL Heparin Plasma		
Collection Notes	Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate Plasma into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		

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Test Code	Test Name	Method/CPT Code Changes	Unit Changes
0940R	Calcium Survey, RBCs		
Specimen Requirements	2 mL RBCs		
Collection Notes	Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
0936R	Calcium Unwashed, RBCs		
Specimen Requirements	2 mL RBCs		
Collection Notes	Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
6365R	Inorganic Panel 8, RBCs		
Specimen Requirements	9 mL RBCs		
Collection Notes	Collect 12 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
2551B	Magnesium, Blood		
Specimen Requirements	1 mL Heparin Blood		
Collection Notes	Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
2551R	Magnesium, RBCs		
Specimen Requirements	1 mL RBCs		
Collection Notes	Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		

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Test Code	Test Name	Method/CPT Code Changes	Unit Changes
2551SP	<p>Magnesium, Serum/Plasma Specimen Requirements 1 mL Serum or Heparin Plasma Collection Notes For Plasma, collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. For Serum, collect 6 mL Blood using a royal blue top tube without anticoagulant. Red top tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate Serum or Plasma into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. The use of serum separator tubes is not acceptable. Submission of a serum separator tube will result in cancellation. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.</p>		
2550P	<p>Magnesium Survey, Plasma Specimen Requirements 1 mL Heparin Plasma Collection Notes Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate Plasma into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.</p>		
2550R	<p>Magnesium Survey, RBCs Specimen Requirements 1 mL RBCs Collection Notes Collect 6 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.</p>		
6153R	<p>Metals Panel 1, RBCs Specimen Requirements 7 mL RBCs Collection Notes Collect 12 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.</p>		
3066B	<p>Mineral Profile, Blood Specimen Requirements 8 mL Heparin Blood Collection Notes Collect 12 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.</p>		

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Test Code	Test Name	Method/CPT Code Changes	Unit Changes
3066R Specimen Requirements 7 mL RBCs Collection Notes	Mineral Profile, RBCs Collect 12 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
3066SP Specimen Requirements 9 mL Serum or Heparin Plasma Collection Notes	Mineral Profile, Serum/Plasma Collect 12 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate Serum or Plasma into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		
3067R Specimen Requirements 6 mL RBCs Collection Notes	Minerals Panel 6, RBCs Collect 12 mL Heparin Blood. Royal blue top heparinized tubes are the recommended tube type. Green top heparinized tubes, while acceptable, are not certified as trace metal free. Centrifuge and separate RBCs into a screw capped vial. Chill and ship with cold pack. DO NOT FREEZE. EDTA tubes are not acceptable. Acceptable alternate tube type added (green top heparin), due to potential unavailability of preferred sample tube.		