



# Clinical Practice Change Alert

January 8, 2014

## **CHANGE in BLOOD COLLECTION TUBE for ESR TESTS**

**Date Effective: Monday, January 20, 2014**

### **Background Information:**

- The Hematology Laboratory at HSC has implemented an automated ESR analyzer as of Monday, January 20, 2014.
- The automated ESR will improve efficiency and improve quality of laboratory testing that includes improved turnaround time (TAT).
- Achievement of this goal required a change in collection device for ESR testing.

### **Change in Test Procedure:**

- Effective Monday, January 20, 2014, the blood tube device will be EDTA anticoagulated tubes (lavender top) 4.5 mL and 2.7 mL size
- If a combination of a routine CBC test and ESR is ordered, then only one EDTA tube is required. ESR can be ordered together with CBC (same EDTA tube).

### **Patient Impact:**

- Improved patient care is anticipated due to decreased turnaround time that would be achieved.

**More information:** This practice change is part of an overall strategy to improve the quality of laboratory testing and reporting, and should improve turnaround time for test reporting. Our primary objective is to provide you with the highest quality of patient results possible in a timely manner.

### **DSM Contact Information:**

Please contact the laboratory with any questions at 204-787-1564 or

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