



AT THE FOREFRONT

UChicago
Medicine

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TO: UCH Medical Staff, Housestaff, Patient Care Centers, and Outpatient Clinics

FROM: Vera Tesic, MD, MS, D (ABMM)
Associate Director, Microbiology/Immunology Laboratories

Nilima Trivedi BS MT (ASCP), Manager Microbiology/Immunology Laboratories

RE: Syphilis Total (IgG/IgM) Diagnosis Ab with RPR Reflex Testing

Effective immediately, Clinical Microbiology/ Immunology Laboratories will temporary start sending Syphilis Total (IgG/IgM) Diagnosis Ab with RPR Reflex Testing to Mayo Clinic Laboratories.

We have been informed by the manufacturer there is a critical shortage of testing supplies for Syphilis Total (IgG/IgM) Diagnosis Ab with RPR Reflex testing (Test Code: SYPGM) due to manufacturer challenges that will significantly limit our supply for the next several weeks.

Syphilis screening at Mayo is **also** performed using the reverse testing algorithm.

- If the syphilis IgG result is reactive or equivocal, then the rapid plasma reagin (RPR) screen will be performed
- If the RPR screen is positive, then the RPR titer will be performed
- If the RPR screen is negative, then syphilis antibody *Treponema pallidum* particle agglutination testing (TPPA) will be performed.

Reference values:

Negative	No serologic evidence of infection with <i>Treponema pallidum</i> . Repeat testing may be considered in patients with suspected acute or primary syphilis in 2 to 4 weeks.
Equivocal	Rapid plasma reagin (RPR) has been ordered to help distinguish between infection with <i>T. pallidum</i> versus a falsely reactive treponemal antibody result.
Reactive	RPR has been ordered to help distinguish between infection with <i>T. pallidum</i> versus a falsely reactive treponemal antibody result.

There will be **no change** in EPIC order and testing algorithm. Ordering providers will continue to use our current test code (SYPGM). Turnaround time will be delayed for 24-72 hours. We are continuing to work with our suppliers and manufacturers to alleviate the constraint as soon as possible. Syphilis Diagnosis Newborn testing algorithm (Test Code: RPRN) remains unaffected.

If you have any questions, please contact Nilima Trivedi, BS MT (ASCP), Manager Microbiology/Immunology at 773-702-4116,