

February 22, 2012 – Oregon

A L E R T

New Folate Reference Ranges Shift Patient Samples Upward 30 – 45%

WHAT'S NEW?

Effective Wednesday, February 29, 2012, the reference ranges for folate testing will change as a result of reagent restandardization by the manufacturer. The restandardization aligns the folate assay with the World Health Organization's international standard 03/178.

Based on method comparisons performed between the current and the restandardized folate assay, patient results will shift upward by approximately 30-45%.

UNIT CODES AFFECTED

41300

Folate (Oregon, Longview and Bellingham)

41310

Vitamin B12 and Folate (Oregon and Longview)

ORDERING AND SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

Ordering and specimen requirements remain the same and may be found in the online test menu at www.peacehealthlabs.org. Testing is performed daily with results released the same day as testing.

QUESTIONS?

Stephen Erfurth, PhD, DABCC, DABCC/TC
Director of Science and Technology

☎ 541-341-8092

☎ 800-826-3616 ext. 8092

serfurth@peacehealthlabs.org

Lynette Long, MT, HHS

Technical Consultant, Chemistry

☎ 541-743-4619

☎ 800-826-3616 ext. 4619

llong@peacehealthlabs.org

Reference Range Changes

Sample Result	Old	New
Normal	>3.0 ng/mL	>5.9 ng/mL
Indeterminate	2.5-3.0 ng/mL	4.0-5.8 ng/mL
Deficient	<2.5 ng/mL	<4.0 ng/mL*

*Conclusions of a World Health Organization technical consultation on folate and vitamin B12 deficiencies in Food and Nutrition Bulletin, vol. 29, no.2, 2008.