



November 10, 2016 – Vancouver

A L E R T

Specimen requirement change for vitamin D testing

WHAT'S NEW?

Effective immediately, serum separator tubes (SST) or plain red top tubes are the only recommended specimen types for vitamin D testing that is sent to the Vancouver lab until further notice.

WHY THE CHANGE?

It has been found that plasma vitamin D results have a negative bias when compared to serum results. This could potentially impact the interpretation of vitamin D status in patients whose vitamin D level is near the treatment cutoff, or in monitoring the vitamin D status of a patient if a mixture of plasma and serum specimens are used over time. Siemens is working to correct this issue and will notify the laboratory when we can resume testing on plasma specimens.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

Collect vitamin D specimens in SST or plain red top tubes only.

QUESTIONS?

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