



NOTICE DATE: November 9, 2016

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 17, 2016

TEST METHODOLOGY AND SPECIMEN CONTAINER CHANGE

Sedimentation Rate, Westergren

Order Code: ESRA
LOINC: 4537-7
Fee Code: BA012

Effective November 17, 2016, the MLabs Hematology Laboratory will implement a new analyzer, the iSED for erythrocyte sedimentation rate analysis (ESR) to replace the eXcyte analyzer. The iSED utilizes photometric rheoscopy as its methodology and has been found to have greater than 95% correlation with the Westergren method. The iSED assures repeatability by removing external variables such as mixing, vibration, temperature, timing and other factors that introduce imprecision in other manual and semi-automated Westergren methods.

This technology may not be affected by low hemoglobin/hematocrit levels as other methodologies and thus is less likely to cause false elevations in the ESR. Thus, if the ESR is being used to follow the progress of a patient's inflammatory disease during treatment, there may be some variation from prior evaluations and the patient may need to have a new baseline established.

The specimen requirement for this assay will change from the Black top ESR-Vacuum tube to a Lavender top (EDTA) tube. Note that the Black top tube will no longer be acceptable.

Collection Instructions: Collect specimen in a lavender top EDTA tube. Send 3 mL (minimum 1 mL) intact whole blood specimen within 8 hours of collection at room temperature or within 24 hours of collection refrigerated.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 22, 2016

TEST DISCONTINUED

Fetal Lung Profile, Amniotic Fluid

Order Code: MMLR
Fee Code: 23384
Reference Laboratory: Mayo FLP (8929)

Mayo Medical Laboratories Fetal Lung Profile, Amniotic Fluid will be discontinued effective November 22, 2016 due to the vendor no longer manufacturing reagents and supplies necessary to perform the assay.