

Beta-Hydroxybutyrate Testing Update

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 16, 2019

BETA-HYDROXYBUTYRATE TESTING UPDATE

Effective January 16, 2019, Wisconsin Diagnostic Laboratories (WDL) will begin performing beta-hydroxybutyrate testing in-house. Concurrently, acetoacetic acid testing will be discontinued.

Clinical significance:

Beta-hydroxybutyrate is the primary ketone body elevated in diabetic and alcoholic ketoacidosis and is thus the preferred marker for detecting and monitoring these conditions. The new beta-hydroxybutyrate test will report exact values, as opposed to the qualitative values currently reported with the acetoacetic acid test.

Specimen Collection:

- Specimen collection is unaffected by this test change
- The Gold-top (SST) and Light Green-top (PST) tubes currently accepted for acetoacetic acid testing will continue to be accepted for beta-hydroxybutyrate testing

Summary of changes:

New Test	Mnemonic	Test Code	CPT Code(s)	Update
Beta-hydroxybutyrate	BETA OHBUT	3500520	82010	Introduced January 16, 2019

Discontinued Test	Mnemonic	Test Code	CPT Code(s)	Update
Acetoacetic acid	ACETOACID	1000600	82009	Discontinued January 16, 2019

For technical questions or additional information, please contact:

- Ian Gunsolus, PhD, Associate Director of Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology, 414.805.6972, igunsolus@mcw.edu