

Peripheral Blood Flow Cytometry Testing Updates

Effective January 9, 2024

Effective January 9, 2024; Peripheral Blood Flow cytometry will now be a part of an order set known as “Hematopathology Evaluation”. This order set has built in logic to review patient history in the EMR and previous pathology recommendations to better utilize peripheral blood flow cytometry in concordance with consensus guidelines. Peripheral blood flow cytometry as a standalone order will remain in certain approved order sets where it has known clinical utility.

In patients with a documented history of hematolymphoid malignancy in the last 5 years, any history of a stem cell transplant, or a pathology smear review recommending flow cytometry within the last 6 months, the following orders will be placed:

Complete Blood Count with Differential (LAB2002)

Peripheral Blood for Leukemia/Lymphoma Marker Panel (LAB1208)

For patients who don’t meet the above conditions, the following orders will be placed:

Complete Blood Count with Differential (LAB2002)

Reticulocyte Count (LAB2009)

Physician Ordered Peripheral Blood Pathology Review with Reflex to Flow Cytometry (LAB2039)

If the patient has no history in Epic or Care Everywhere, the ordering provider will be asked if the patient has a history or known diagnosis. If yes, the orders will follow those who have a known history of malignancy. If no, the physician ordered peripheral blood pathology review with reflex to flow cytometry and associated orders will be placed.

Flow cytometry will be reflexed if any of the following conditions are met:

Lymphocytosis (Absolute Lymphocyte Count >5.0), Lymphocyte atypia (regardless of ALC), Unexplained Blasts, Plasma cells >2% or with atypia, neutropenia, eosinophilia, lymphoma cells, Sezary cells, Unexplained splenomegaly, lymphadenopathy, history of hematolymphoid malignancy not captured by order.

For questions, please contact Wisconsin Diagnostic Laboratories Flow Cytometry department:

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