EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 25, 2021
SYPHILIS TESTING UPDATE

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 25, 2021, Wisconsin Diagnostic Laboratories (WDL) will update its syphilis testing offerings due to a manufacturer notification. The Rapid Plasma Reagin (RPR) test method will revert to the manual flocculation method rather than continue the recent update to an automated method.

This change results from the manufacturer’s report of increased sensitivity of its assay, which it attributed to COVID-19 vaccination. Due to the inconsistent reliability of the automated assay, WDL will remain with the flocculation test method for all future RPR testing.

Reactive RPR screen results will be reported along with the RPR titer. As WDL has transitioned to Beaker as of September 25, the RPR titer results using the manual flocculation method will be reported as “RPR titer” in EPIC.

WDL will maintain the “conventional” syphilis testing algorithm, i.e., RPR screening followed by Treponemal antibody confirmation.

For Technical Questions or Additional Information, Please Contact:

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