

## **Testing Update**

# Test Method Change for Serum and Urine Protein Electrophoresis

WHO: Froedtert Health System including Froedtert South

**WHEN**: Transition occurring 10/22/2025 – 10/23/2025

**WHAT**: Wisconsin Diagnostic Laboratories (WDL) will be updating the test method used for serum and urine protein electrophoresis. The current method used is the Helena gel electrophoresis system for protein quantification and gel immunofixation method for protein characterization. The new method will be Sebia's capillary electrophoresis for protein quantification and immunotyping for protein characterization.

There are several clinical advantages to the new assay, such as better detection and characterization of monoclonal proteins, the ability to report therapeutic antibodies separately, more accurate quantitation with capillary software, and improved consistency for longitudinal monitoring.

### What to expect:

A new interpretive comment noting the change in method will be applied for a minimum of 3 months. There will be updated reference intervals for the protein fractions.

Urine will only have albumin, and any paraprotein, reported.

Protein electrophoresis interpretive comments will be reported for serum in the "Protein EP interpretation" and for urine in the "Protein EP interpretation, urine."

The paraprotein quantitation, characterization, and any additional interpretive comments will be reported in one location; "Immunotyping electrophoresis interpretation, serum" or the "Immunotyping electrophoresis interpretation, urine."

Paraproteins suggestive of therapy will be quantitated and identified separately, when possible.

Screenshots of example views in Epic are provided at the end of this memo.

**Action item:** Epic users, if you have saved or favorited a previous version of the "immunofixation" orders in your preference list, please remove the outdated order and replace it with the update 'immunotyping' order.

## **QUESTIONS:** Please contact:

- Laura Smy, PhD, Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology Co-Directory, 414-805-6975, lsmy@mcw.edu
- Rob Nerenz, PhD, Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology Co-Director, 414-805-7074, rnerenz@mcw.edu
- Pearl Albright, Manager, Chemistry, 414.805.7977 palbright@wisconsindiagnostic.com

#### **EPIC SUPPORT:**

Any questions or concerns regarding this change can be directed to the Epic help desk at 805-2101. They will direct you to the appropriate person









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## Screenshots of example views in Epic for new serum electrophoresis reporting









