Uric Acid Requests for Patients on Rasburicase

Rasburicase (Elitek®) is a drug used to manage plasma uric acid levels in patients receiving anticancer therapy expected to result in tumor lysis. Rasburicase will continue to degrade uric acid in blood specimens; therefore, special handling of samples is necessary to minimize the *in vitro* degradation of uric acid between collection and analysis of the blood specimen.

We recommend that blood is collected in pre-chilled sodium heparin or lithium heparin tubes, placed immediately in an ice water bath and delivered promptly (within 60 minutes) to the laboratory for analysis. These specimen collection procedures for uric acid must be followed for 96 hours after the last dose of rasburicase is administered.

To facilitate the proper handling of blood specimens for this specific scenario, Laboratory Alliance is implementing a new order code for uric acid analysis for patients on rasburicase. The new code will be available for use on November 13, 2017.

Test Name:	Uric Acid
Test Code:	URCRAS
Reference Range:	Female: 2.6-6.0 mg/dL Male: 3.5-7.2 mg/dL
Test Description:	For use only on patients receiving rasburicase (Elitek®) and for 96 hours following last dose.
Specimen Requirements:	Dedicated light green or dark green top tube (lithium or sodium heparin). Collect in pre-chilled tube and place immediately in ice bath. Deliver to laboratory immediately (within 60 minutes of collection).
Stability:	4 hours when collected in pre-chilled tube and immediately placed in ice bath.
Testing Schedule:	Daily
CPT Code:	84550
Billing Code:	1010579

For questions about analysis of uric acid in the presence of rasburicase, please contact Dr. Roy Huchzermeier at 315-410-7221 or Cheryl Haskins at 315-410-7014 or cherylhaskins@lacny.com

cmh, 9/25/17