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LABORATORY ALLIANCE
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To: All Clients

From: Cheryl Haskins
Manager, Chemistry and Referral Testing

Date: February 22, 2017

Subject: DHEA-S Interference in Progesterone Assay

Laboratory Alliance uses the Siemens Vista immunoassay method for progesterone analysis. We have been notified by Siemens that there is a small degree of cross-reactivity between DHEA-S and the antibody used in their progesterone assays. This can cause falsely elevated progesterone assay results for specimens containing elevated DHEA-S concentrations. These falsely elevated assay results may be particularly problematic for in-vitro fertilization (IVF) patients taking DHEA supplements, where accurate measurement of low progesterone concentrations is very important. Therefore our Siemens progesterone immunoassay should not be utilized for patients who are taking DHEA supplements.

Alternate testing options for progesterone in these specific clinical situations include liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LCMS) or an alternate immunoassay method. Both are available through our reference laboratories.

Due to the high specificity of LCMS methods, the preferred ordering option is to request "Progesterone by LCMS". However, results are typically available in 2 – 5 days which may not suit the needs for our IVF patients.

If stat turn-around time is required, please request "Progesterone by Alternate Immunoassay". These will be forwarded to an alternate laboratory and performed by the Roche immunoassay method. Result will be available same day.

Specimen requirements for our regular progesterone assay and either of the alternative assays are the same. Details may be found in our Directory of Services under the Progesterone entry.

Questions regarding progesterone testing may be directed to Cheryl Haskins, MS, MT(ASCP)SC, Manager, Chemistry and Referral Testing, at 315-410-7014 or cherylhaskins@lacny.com.