

Medical Staff Bulletin

April 15, 2019

Prenatal Serology Testing Change

As of April 17, 2019, Prenatal testing for Hepatitis B, Rubella, and Syphilis serology will be performed in-house in the Microbiology laboratory. This is being done to improve turnaround time, accuracy of results by avoiding potential transcription errors, and ensure that the patient’s electronic medical record is complete. This should improve the quality of care of patients and allow for any follow-up testing that may be required to be performed in a rapid and efficient manner. HIV serology will continue to be sent to the Public Health Lab when requested. We continue to work with the Ministry of Health and Laboratory Licensing to be able to perform HIV testing in-house as well. Therefore, in order to complete all prenatal testing, two (preferably serum separator [SST]) tubes of blood should be collected and submitted to the Microbiology Laboratory for testing (one will be used for in-house testing for Hepatitis B, Rubella, and Syphilis serology and one will be sent to the Public Health Lab for HIV serology).

Prenatal Testing Change	
Which location is impacted?	All Sites
What is happening?	Hepatitis B, Rubella, and Syphilis serology will be performed in-house in the Microbiology laboratory, HIV test continued to be sent to Public Health Laboratory.
Start Date/Time:	Wednesday, April 17, 2019
Who is impacted?	All Prenatal Testing Users.
How does this affect me?	Faster turnaround times for Hepatitis B, Rubella, and Syphilis serology results.
What action is required?	No change from current practice. Two gold top SST tubes of blood is required for the panel of tests.
Any questions?	Please contact the Medical Microbiologist on call through Mount Sinai Hospital locating (416-586-5133).