TEST UPDATE
Restandardized Serum Folate Assay

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This change will take effect **February 6, 2012**

Overview and Clinical Utility:

Effective February 6, 2012, PathGroup will implement the Restandardized Serum Folate Assay. Folate is an essential vitamin vital to normal cell growth and DNA synthesis. Folate deficiency can be caused by insufficient dietary intake, malabsorption or excessive folate utilization which occurs very commonly during pregnancy, alcoholism, hepatitis, or other liver-damaging diseases. World Health Organization Technical Consultation states that a folate less than 4 ng/mL is considered deficient and can lead to megaloblastic anemia and ultimately to severe neurological problems.

Test Methodology:

The Restandardized Serum Folate assay is performed using Chemiluminescent methodology.

Ordering:

Test	Test Name	CPT	LOINC
FOLAT	**Serum Folate**	**82746**	**2283-0**

New Test	Previous Test
Methodology: Chemiluminescent	Methodology: Chemiluminescent
>5.9 ng/mL	5.0 – 20.0
Units: ng/mL	Units: ng/mL

Specimen Collection and Storage:

1) Collect specimen in a serum separator tube.
   a. Allow serum tube to clot for 30 minutes.
   b. Spin serum separator tube 10-15 minutes @ 3500 rpm.
2) Serum specimens are stable refrigerated for 7 days.
3) Transport specimen refrigerated.

Test Performed:
Sunday - Saturday

Turnaround Time:
48 hours

For further questions, please contact Client Services at 615-562-9300 or 1-888-474-5227