

Technical Bulletin

Discontinuation of In-house Hepatitis B envelope Ag and Ab Testing

TO: Our Valued Clients

FROM: Dr. A. Christian Whelen, PhD, D (ABMM)

V.P. – Technical Director (Microbiology)

Dr. Wesley Kim, MD

Medical Director DLS and QMC West

DATE: March 12, 2021

SUBJECT: In-house Hepatitis B envelope Antigen (HBeAg) and Antibody (anti-HBe) testing will be discontinued

Due to a discontinuation of reagents by the manufacturer, DLS will no longer be performing Hepatitis B **envelope** antigen (Order code 496) and Hepatitis B **envelope** antibody (Order code 497) testing, effective March 19, 2021.

All orders for HBeAg and anti-HBe testing will be sent to Quest Diagnostics (Order codes 7683 and 7684, respectively). Requests using the old order codes will be converted to the new send-out code.

The turn-around time for these tests when performed at DLS was up to 4 days. We anticipate the new turn-around time from Quest will be 5 days.

The specimen type and stability is NOT expected to change.

The following table illustrates what testing will be available:

Test Name	Specimen Type	Order Code	Test location	Turn- around Time	СРТ
Hepatitis Be Antigen (HBeAg)	Preferred: Serum in Serum Separator Tube Acceptable: Serum in Plain (Red)	7683	Quest Diagnostics	5 days	87350
Hepatitis Be Antibody (HBeAb)	Preferred: Serum in Serum Separator Tube Acceptable: Serum in Plain (Red)	7684	Quest Diagnostics	5 days	86707

If you have any questions please call DLS client services at 589-5101 or Dr. Wesley Kim at 389-3195.