From: UCSF-GME
Subject: MESSAGE FROM CLINICAL LABS -- Cyclosporine and Sirolimus Assay Changes
Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2009 7:51:51 PM

TO: ALL UCSF CLINICAL EMPLOYEES

FROM: Tim Hamill, M.D.
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RE: CYCLOSPORINE AND SIROLIMUS ASSAY CHANGES

Effective July 16, Clinical Laboratories at Parnassus and Mount Zion will modify the cyclosporine and sirolimus assays, which will cause results to increase by about 20 to 30 percent. The assay changes are being made because of the need to install replacement instrumentation.

Cyclosporine Assay -- Cyclosporine results will increase on average by about 30 percent mainly due to calibration differences between the new immunoassay (Abbott Architect) and the current HPLC assay. On laboratory reports, the upper limit of the ordinarily recommended therapeutic trough range also will be extended from 400 to 500 micrograms/L.

Sirolimus Assay -- Sirolimus results will increase on average by about 20 percent mainly due to better recovery of sirolimus from blood samples with the new immunoassay (Abbott Architect) versus the current immunoassay (Abbott IMx). Although sirolimus levels will increase due to the assay changes, the upper therapeutic range will be lowered slightly from 17 to 15 micrograms/L to bring it closer to agreement with generally recommended guidelines.

For the next six months, reminder comments will be attached to all cyclosporine and sirolimus results, noting the impact of these method changes and the date when the assays changed. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Ted Kurtz at Parnassus at kurtzt@labmed2.ucsf.edu.