

Fall 2011

Volume 17 / Issue 7

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QUALITY UPDATE is a complimentary quarterly newsletter providing laboratory information for physicians and their staff.

OUR MISSION: Improve the health of our community through excellence in medical laboratory services.

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CompuNet®

CLINICAL LABORATORIES

Quality Update

Using Care360™ Standing Orders

Denise Watkins, Patient Services
Gina Kilbane, Information Resources

Standing Orders (SO) are a useful tool and a convenience for both physicians and patients. A Standing Order is a test request for a specific patient who requires repeated testing to monitor a condition or disease.

ADDING A STANDING ORDER IN CARE360 IS A SIMPLE PROCESS:

After entering your patient's demographic information, check the box next to Standing Order in the top left corner.

Once the Standing Order box is checked, you can edit the frequency of testing including start and end dates.

Choose one of two Standing Order options:

- (a) Save SO - to save the Standing Order without immediately placing an order for the first specimen or,
- (b) Save SO + Order - to save the Standing Order AND immediately place an order for the first specimen. Use this if you are sending us a specimen for processing and saving a standing order for future use.

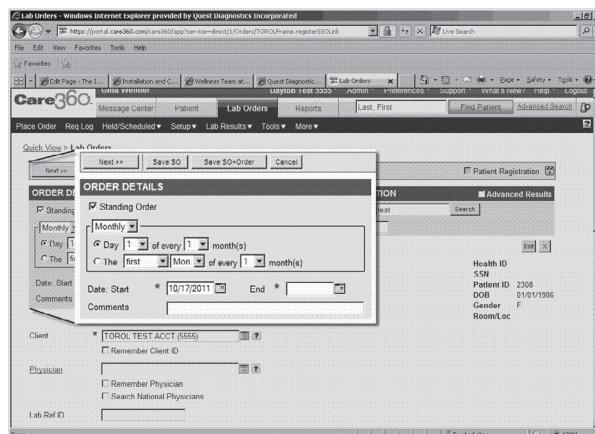
The Care360 Standing Order feature meets all regulations. For example, state law prohibits Standing Orders longer than 6 months without renewal. Care360 will notify the physician when renewal is necessary.

STANDING ORDERS NOT ENTERED THROUGH CARE360

If you have Standing Orders with CompuNet which were not entered through Care360, we may contact your office to ensure we have the following on file:

- Standing Order specific start and end dates along with frequency
- Ordering physician's signature
- Specific test information along with an ICD9 code.

To learn more about using the Standing Order feature in Care360, contact your CompuNet sales representative or call the Quest Diagnostics Care360 Help Desk at 1-800-697-9302, press 1.



Revised Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-Coverage (ABN) goes into effect January 1, 2012

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have released the latest version of the ABN for Medicare patients. The only change to the new ABN is the release date - the ABN dated 3/11 replaces the 3/08 version.

Please be aware that after January 1, 2012, CMS will only accept 3/11 version ABNs. ABNs dated 3/08 will be considered invalid.

If your practice utilizes Care360 connectivity products, the latest ABN version will be generated automatically. If you use paper ABNs, contact Client Services (937) 297-8260 to order a new supply and replace your old stock.

Cytology Options and Contacts

Amanda Clark, Cytology

CompuNet offers comprehensive cytology test services and direct access to ASCP-certified Cytotechnologists. In addition, CompuNet's Board-certified Cytopathologists are available for consultation when necessary. Cytology services include:

GYNECOLOGIC CYTOLOGY

- Pap testing with Thin Prep® Imaging System - Every Thin Prep pap gets two reviews - one from the Imager and then another from an experienced Cytotechnologist.
- 4 -in-1 testing - Testing from the Thin Prep vial combines advanced cervical cancer screening (Pap and HPV) with tests for two of the most common sexually transmitted diseases, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia.
- QC re-screening of all high risk paps – We re-screen 100% of “high risk” paps (CLIA '88 mandates 10% re-screening of “high risk” paps).
- Customized statistical reports:
 - Monthly - (1) a list of all patients with pap smears sent to us from the previous month with the final diagnosis, (2) a list of patients who had abnormal results, and (3) a 6 month retrospective correlation of any patients who had paps plus HPV testing and/or biopsy (concurrent with pap or subsequent to pap testing).
 - Semi-annually - practice statistics of the rate of incidence for each diagnostic category, i.e. negative, ASCUS, LSIL, HSIL and cancer as a whole number and percentage of their patient population.
- Case-specific Cytopathologist reviews by request

COMPUNET PAP STATISTICS

- Turnaround Time - 65% of pap results within 3 business days, 99.8% within 5 business days

NON-GYNECOLOGIC CYTOLOGY

- Case-specific reviews by request
- 48-hour turnaround time for routine non-gynecologic cytology specimens
- Non-gynecologic cytology tests include urine, nipple discharge, HSV stains, and anal paps.

GYN CONTACTS

Pap Customer Service

Deb Newby
Phone: 937-297-8264
Fax: 937-297-8271

Cytology Supervisor

Pap Specialist
Amanda Clark, CT (ASCP)
Phone: 937-297-8224
Fax: 937-297-8271

NON-GYN CONTACTS

Non-Gyn Customer Service

Sharon Reedy
Phone: 937-208-3579
Fax: 937-208-3238

Cytology Team Leader

Non-Gyn Specialist
Katrina St. Clair, CT (ASCP)
Phone: 937-208-5050
Fax: 937-208-3238

New Prescription Drug Monitoring Cut-off Levels

Prescription Drug Monitoring is a valuable tool for monitoring a patient's pain treatment plan. To better suit the needs of physicians utilizing prescription drug monitoring, more sensitive quantitative mass spectrometry cutoff values have been implemented:

PAIN MANAGEMENT - QUANTITATIVE DRUG TEST (URINE)	PREVIOUS CUT OFF VALUE (NG/ML)	NEW CUT OFF VALUE (NG/ML)
Pain Management Benzodiazepines, Quantitative (Urine)	100	50
Pain Management Clonazepam Metabolite, Quantitative (Urine)	40	25
Pain Management Tricyclic Antidepressants, Quantitative (Urine)	300	100

For questions about Prescription Drug Monitoring cut-off levels, contact: 1-877-40 RX TOX (844-407-9869).

Campylobacter Test Changes

Ike Northern, Microbiology & Serology

In December, 2011, CompuNet Clinical Laboratories will update the testing method used for detection of Campylobacter.

Campylobacter is a gram-negative bacillus that is one of the most common causes of diarrheal illness in the U.S. It is often associated with eating raw or undercooked poultry. Currently, a Campylobacter culture is routinely performed when a stool culture is ordered. Due to the fastidious nature of Campylobacter, samples that contain this organism may be culture-negative because it dies during transport to the laboratory. However, in recent years newer methods have become available that are superior to culture.

In a study performed at CompuNet, an EIA (Enzyme ImmunoAssay) method demonstrated 100% sensitivity and 99% specificity when compared to culture and molecular methods. In this same study, culture was 92% sensitive and 100% specific. As a result of this study, CompuNet will replace culture for Campylobacter with the EIA method.

When ordering a stool culture panel (**order code 6649**), the sample will be cultured for Salmonella, Shigella, and E. coli O157:H7 and an EIA will be done for detection of E.coli Shiga Toxin and Campylobacter. There is a new CPT code (**87449**)* and, as a result of the change in methodologies (from culture to EIA), the price of the test will change.

The preferred specimen is stool in Carey Blair transport media: the same specimen type required for Campylobacter culture.

For questions about this advancement in detection of this organism, contact Ike Northern at (937) 297-8334 or william.i.northern@questdiagnostics.com.

* The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.

Rose Gardener's Disease

Ike Northern, Microbiology and Serology

Roses are popular flowers among gardeners who enjoy their beauty and fragrance. However, tending roses is not without risk. Skin punctures caused by rose thorns may increase a gardener's susceptibility to Rose Gardener's Disease, also known as Sporotrichosis.

Sporotrichosis is a fungal infection caused by *Sporothrix schenckii*. This mold is isolated from soil, plants, and plant products. Although it does not cause disease in plants, it can cause infections in people who obtain scratches or puncture wounds when working with and around plants and plants products. Individuals who are at increased risk for Sporotrichosis include farmers, rose gardeners, miners (due to mine shafts that are supported by wooden posts), horticulturalists, and armadillo hunters.

Typically the initial stage of Sporotrichosis starts as a small papulonodular lesion (2-4 mm). The lesion is painless, often ulcerates, and is erythematous. Additional lesions that look like the primary lesion may develop along the lymphatic vessels. The lesions may drain and usually wax and wane for months to years. In some cases, the infection may spread to joints.

Antifungal agents, such as itraconazole, are usually required to treatment this infection. Resolution of the infection while on treatment requires 3-6 months.

DIAGNOSING SPOROTRICHOSIS

Diagnosis is best made by culturing the affected site for fungi. The presence of *Sporothrix schenckii* on the culture is diagnostic. A biopsy of the lesion may also be used for diagnosis. Cigar shaped yeast are seen in these samples when stained with periodic acid Schiff (PAS) stain.

If Sporotrichosis is suspected, a fungal culture may be ordered using order code 70374. Biopsy samples may also be sent to Histology for the PAS stain.

If you have questions about diagnosing Sporotrichosis, contact Ike Northern at (937) 297-8334 or william.i.northern@questdiagnostics.com.

Care360™ News

LIVE CARE360 EHR DEMONSTRATIONS BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

If you are exploring different EHR options, check out the live Care360 EHR demonstrations, available on Tuesdays and Thursdays until December 22. The sessions last about 60 minutes and include a 45-minute live demonstration of Care360 EHR, along with time for attendees to ask questions. For schedule information and to register for the webinar go to: <http://Care360EHR.webex.com>.

IF YOU HAVE CARE360™ EPRESCRIBE:

If your practice has implemented Care360 ePrescribe prior to September 30, 2011, you may be eligible for an 85% subsidy off the cost of a Care360 EHR through Quest Diagnostics. The savings can add up to \$10,000 per physician over a two-year period. Training is also discounted at 85% off normal pricing. After September 2013, you have the option of either continuing your subscription at regular price or canceling the service. If interested visit www.care360.com/Grant or call the Care360 EHR Grant Program hotline at 888-723-5469.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TRIAL THE CARE360™ EHR, FREE-OF-CHARGE, FOR 4 MONTHS:

It is now easier to adopt EHR technology with a limited-time trial offer for the web-based Care360 EHR. Practices can use the fully-featured, easy to use Care360 EHR at no charge for four months (120 days) – a value of almost \$1,500. The required Care360 EHR training is also currently discounted at 50%. At the end of the trial period, you can continue using Care360 EHR at the regular price, or discontinue with no obligation. Contact your CompuNet sales representative or visit www.care360.com for more information.

Additional Updates

COMPUNET BILLING EXPANDS SERVICE HOURS

To address the needs of our clients and patients, CompuNet Billing office hours will be expanded to Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm effective immediately. To reach the Billing department, contact (937) 296-0844 or (800) 686-2252 and press "2".

EDUCATION SEMINARS AVAILABLE FOR P.A.C.E. CREDIT

You can find several on-demand webinars, available for P.A.C.E. credit, at Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute (www.nicholsinstitute.com).

Recent topics include:

- Management of Allergic Disease
- Coagulation and Cardiovascular Disease
- Prescription Drug Abuse and Misuse
- Urine Drug Testing for Chronic Pain Patients

NEW TEST

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE DIFFERENTIATION PANEL

Effective Date	Available immediately
Order Code:	16503
Performing Site:	Quest Diagnostics
Department:	Serology
Specimen Requirements:	2.0 mL serum, refrigerated
Result Code mapping:	86001656 - ASCA IGA
	86001657 - ASCA IGG
	85999708 - PROTEINASE-3 ANTIBODY
	85999709 - MYELOPEROXIDASE AB
	86003306 - ANCA SCREEN
	86006899 - ANA COMMENT

TEST CHANGES & MODIFICATIONS (CHANGES ARE INDICATED IN BOLD PRINT)

DISCONTINUED TEST

IBD SEROLOGY 7

Effective Date	Immediately
Order Code:	19458
Performing Site:	Prometheus
Additional Information:	This test is being discontinued by the Prometheus. The recommended alternative is 16503 Inflammatory Bowel Disease Differentiation Panel , performed at Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute, San Juan Capistrano.

ACCUTYPE@IL28B

Effective Date	Immediately
Test Code	90251
Performing Site	Quest Diagnostics
Department	Genetic Studies
CPU Interface mapping:	OLD
	86007234 ACCUTYPE@ IL28B
	NEW
	86007913 IL28B Genotype:
	86007234 ACCUTYPE@ IL28B:

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