

TO: All Physicians

FROM: Sylva Bem, M.D., Director of Immunology

DATE: August 14, 2019

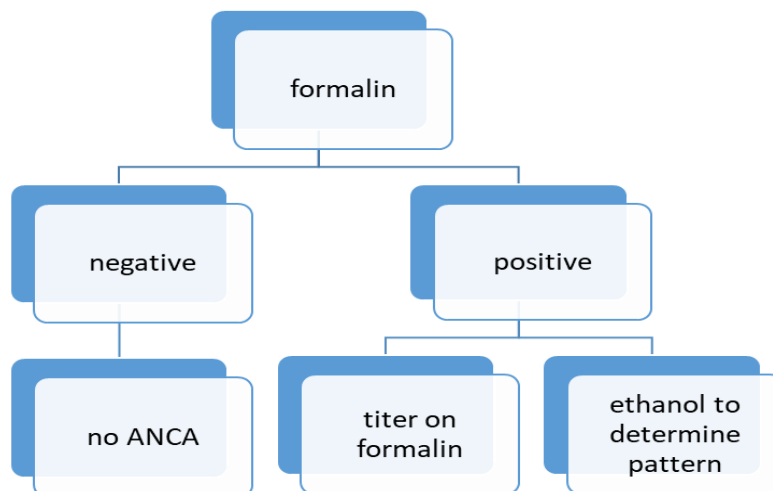
RE: ANCA Testing Algorithm by Indirect Fluorescence

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The Immunology Laboratory will change the ANCA Testing Algorithm by Indirect Fluorescence effective September 1, 2019.

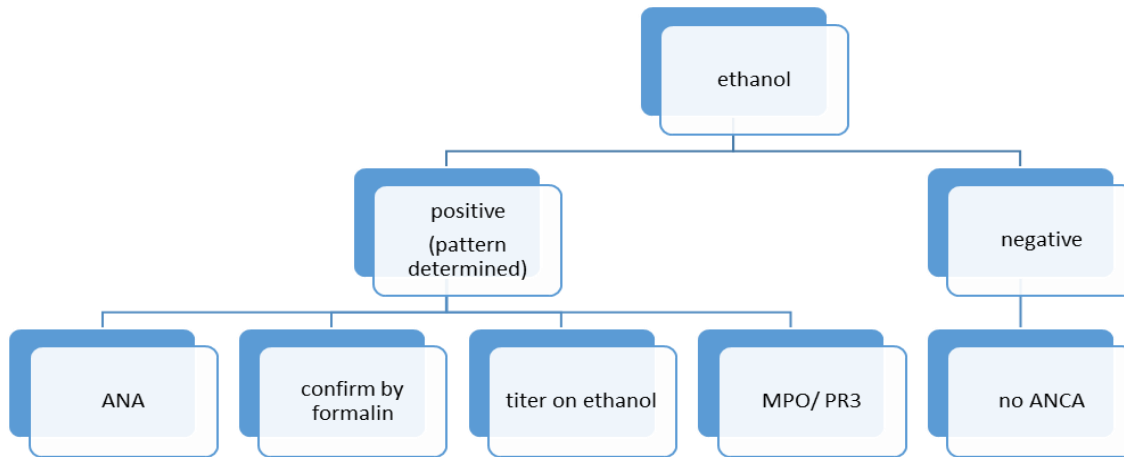
**The previous ANCA Testing Algorithm** involved testing the patient's sample on a formalin-fixed human neutrophil slide first. If the result was positive, the patient sample was tested on an ethanol-fixed human neutrophil slide to distinguish between p-ANCA and c-ANCA pattern. The ANCA titer was determined on formalin-fixed slides.

**Previous ANCA Testing Algorithm:**



**The new ANCA Testing Algorithm** will start with **screening** the patient's serum on ethanol-fixed slides. If the result is positive, a pattern will be established (p-ANCA, c-ANCA, atypical ANCA) and **confirmation** of positive ANCA will be performed on formalin-fixed slides. **ANCA titer will be performed on ethanol-fixed slides.** The Reference Interval will not change. ANA (IFA) will be added (at an additional charge) on to all positive ethanol results to determine possible ANA interference. MPO and PR3 testing will be performed on all positive ANCA results (currently send-out) also at an additional charge.

**New ANCA Testing Algorithm:**



The new algorithm will allow for better identification of atypical ANCA.

**Performing titers on ethanol rather than formalin might change the end-point titer in some patients, occasionally several fold. For this reason, any patient with a previous positive ANCA result will be titered on both formalin and ethanol the first time a specimen is received post-transition to a new algorithm. This will show the change in titers and allow for smooth transition.**