

βHCG Testing Change

APPLIES TO ALL INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT LOCATIONS AT BOTH CAMPUSES

- βHCG levels are measured to test for pregnancy and to monitor for specific tumor recurrence
- Testing is also performed to rule out pregnancy prior to surgery, invasive procedures, or radiology studies
- Due to the recent shortage of iSTAT cartridges used in the OR, ED, and procedure rooms to rule out pregnancy, a new serum immunoassay for intact **HCG for Pregnancy** will be implemented **July 25th** at both Downtown and Community Campuses to allow for rapid testing
- This rapid test is only FDA approved for pregnancy testing, so the existing total serum βHCG (renamed to **HCG as Tumor Marker**) must be used for tumor monitoring

Inpatient Ordering:

HCG Orders ✓ Accept

Only the HCG for Pregnancy test is defaulted. If the HCG as Tumor Marker test is needed, please swap or add as appropriate.

☒ HCG for Pregnancy
ONCE, today at 0933, For 1 occurrence
Tier 1 (all credentialed providers)

☐ HCG as Tumor Marker

Outpatient Ordering:

HCG Orders ✓ Accept

Only the HCG for Pregnancy test is defaulted. If the HCG as Tumor Marker test is needed, please swap or add as appropriate.

☒ HCG for Pregnancy ■
Routine, Lab Collect, Expires: 1/18/2025

☐ HCG as Tumor Marker ■

- βHCG iSTAT assay is still orderable in Epic and will be available once the manufacturer is able to provide functional cartridges
- Urine βHCG testing should **NOT** be used to rule **out** pregnancy due to the risk of false-negative resulting in potential hazard to mother and child.

Contact Chemistry for further information: 315-464-9175