

Test Methodology Change



Alpha-Fetoprotein Tumor Marker (AFP) Test Methodology Change Effective, 9/9/2011

Effective 9/9/2011, St. Luke's Laboratory will upgrade the in house Alpha-Fetoprotein Tumor Marker (AFP) testing. St. Luke's Laboratory is committed to a Lean, automated system, providing state of the art instrumentation and test methodologies. With this methodology change, we recommend two specimens be drawn to help aid in clinical evaluation, an initial specimen to establish a baseline on this methodology and a specimen one to two months for follow-up.

Advantages to the Test Methodology Change include:

- **Expanded Reportable Range:** The new test methodology will produce more consistent results across a wider reportable range.
- **Turn Around Time:** Our patients will be better served by shorter TAT for AFP testing.

New Alpha-Fetoprotein Tumor Marker (AFP) Reference Range:

0.0 – 8.0 ng/mL

Old Alpha-Fetoprotein Tumor Marker (AFP) Reference Range:

Males: 0.5-5.5 IU/mL

Females: 0.0 – 6.1 ng/mL

If you have questions, please contact Kristin Baer, M.D. 218-249-5751, Chemistry Medical Director or Amber LaMourea, MT (ASCP) 218-249-5024, Immunology Technical Specialist.

St. Luke's Laboratory Services has developed a Web page which contains New Test Announcements.

<http://www.slhduluth.com/hospital/laboratory-services/>