

New Test Announcement

PSA Test Methodology Change, Effective 11/9/09

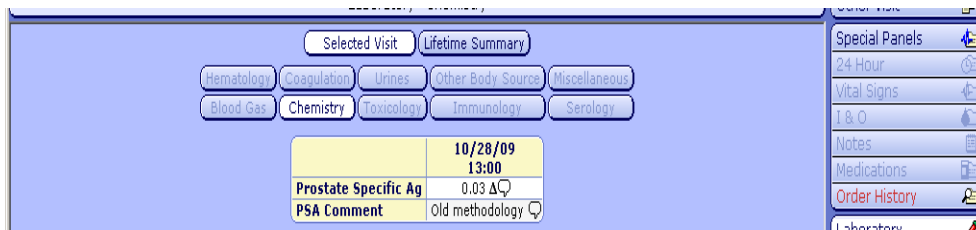
Effective 11/9/09, St. Luke's Laboratory will upgrade the in house PSA methodology. St. Luke's laboratory is committed to a Lean, automated system, providing state of the art instrumentation and test methodologies. We recently installed a Centaur analyzer onto our automation line, allowing an expanded testing menu in house. There are many advantages to this new instrumentation, one of which is the updated PSA methodology.

Advantages of this upgrade to the PSA methodology:

- **Turn Around Time:** our patients will be better served by shorter TAT for PSA testing.
- Improved PSA **sensitivity:** New method 0.01 ng/ml (Old method 0.04 ng/ml)
- **Maintain the reference interval** of 0.0 to 4.0 ng/ml
- Improved instrument to instrument correlation, **better precision.**
- **Community standardization**, allowing back up access to supplies & down times

How will we accomplish the baseline for your patients?

- St. Luke's will maintain the old method for one year for correlation purposes
- All PSA tests will be done with new method, beginning 11/9/09.
- For patients whose PSA is being closely followed, a baseline with the new method will be obtained as follows:
 - All PSA results with a 4% change from the previous result (if available) will be tested with the old method
 - All PSA results with a previous " < 0.4 " that change to a numeric value will be tested with the old method
- If you desire a correlation, please phone the laboratory at X5200
- We will save samples for 1 week, frozen
- Correlation results will be reported as "PSA comment".



The screenshot shows a laboratory information system interface. At the top, there are buttons for 'Selected Visit' and 'Lifetime Summary'. Below these are several category buttons: Hematology, Coagulation, Urines, Other Body Source, Miscellaneous, Blood Gas, Chemistry, Toxicology, Immunology, and Serology. A central table displays the test result for 'Prostate Specific Ag' on 10/28/09 at 13:00, with a value of 0.03 and a downward arrow icon. Below this, a 'PSA Comment' field contains the text 'Old methodology'. On the right side, there is a vertical menu with options like 'Special Panels', '24 Hour', 'Vital Signs', 'I & O', 'Notes', 'Medications', 'Order History', and 'Laboratory'.

	10/28/09 13:00
Prostate Specific Ag	0.03 ↓
PSA Comment	Old methodology

If you have questions, please contact K. Baer, M.D. (218)249-5751, Chemistry Medical Director or Jennifer Viergutz, MT(ASCP) (218) 249-5024, Immunochemistry Technical Specialist.