

New Test Announcement



Vitamin B12 Test Methodology Change, Effective 10/21/09

Effective 10/21/09, St. Luke's Laboratory upgraded the in house Vitamin B 12 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 Vitamin B 12 methodology.

Advantages of this upgrade to the Vitamin B 12 methodology:

- **Turn Around Time:** our patients will be better served by shorter TAT for Estradiol testing. Analysis time on the old analyzer was two hours, analysis time on the new analyzer is 20 minutes.
- Improved Vitamin B 12 **sensitivity:** New method 45 pg/ml (Old method 150 pg/mL).
- **Larger Analytical Range:** New method can measure from 45-2,000 pg/mL. Old method could measure from 150-1,000 pg/mL
- **New reference interval of 211-911 pg/ml** was validated using serum from healthy individuals.
- Improved instrument to instrument correlation, **better precision.**
- **Community standardization,** allowing back up access to supplies & down times

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.