



Effective Date:

Monday, October 06, 2014

## Test Updates

In our continuing effort to provide you with the highest quality toxicology laboratory services available, we have compiled important changes regarding a number of tests we perform. Listed below are the types of changes that may be included in this notification, effective Monday, October 06, 2014

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**Test Changes** - Tests that have had changes to the method/ CPT code, units of measurement, scope of analysis, reference comments, or specimen requirements.

**Discontinued Tests** - Tests being discontinued with alternate testing suggestions.

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Please use this information to update your computer systems/records. These changes are important to ensure standardization of our mutual laboratory databases.

If you have any questions about the information contained in this notification, please call our Client Support Department at (866) 522-2206. Thank you for your continued support of NMS Labs and your assistance in implementing these changes.

The CPT Codes provided in this document are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. NMS Labs does not assume responsibility for billing errors due to reliance on the CPT Codes listed in this document.



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## Test Updates

Test Code	Test Name	Test Name	Method / CPT Code	Specimen Req.	Stability	Scope	Units	Reference Comments	Discontinue
5660B	Alprazolam and Metabolite Confirmation, Blood			•					
8646B	Alprazolam and Metabolite, Blood			•					
0320B	Amobarbital, Blood			•					
5651B	Barbiturates Confirmation, Blood			•					
8620B	Barbiturates Panel, Blood			•					
5641B	Benzodiazepines Confirmation, Blood			•					
9329B	Benzodiazepines Panel, Blood			•					
7673P	Catecholamines, Fractionated and Free, Plasma			•	•				
7677P	Catecholamines, Fractionated and Free, Plasma			•	•				
1615B	Digoxin, Blood	•							
1699B	Dinitro-p-Cresol, Blood								•
1699SP	Dinitro-p-Cresol, Serum/Plasma								•
1699U	Dinitro-p-Cresol, Urine								•
7674P	Dopamine - Free, Plasma			•	•				
8077B	Drug Impaired Driving/DRE Toxicology Inhalants Add-On, Blood (Forensic)								•
8077U	Drug Impaired Driving/DRE Toxicology Inhalants Add-On, Urine (Forensic)								•
7675P	Epinephrine - Free, Plasma			•	•				
4261B	Hypoglycemic Panel (Qualitative), Blood			•			•		
5682B	Methadone and Metabolite Confirmation, Blood			•					
8722B	Methadone and Metabolite, Blood			•					
7676P	Norepinephrine - Free, Plasma			•	•				
9231FL	Pheniramine Screen, Fluid			•					
3560B	Pheniramine, Blood			•					



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## Test Updates

### Test Changes

#### **5660B Alprazolam and Metabolite Confirmation, Blood**

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

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Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### **8646B Alprazolam and Metabolite, Blood**

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

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Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### **0320B Amobarbital, Blood**

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

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Specimen Requirements: 2 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### **5651B Barbiturates Confirmation, Blood**

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

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## Test Updates

### Test Changes

Specimen Requirements: 2 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### 8620B Barbiturates Panel, Blood

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

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Specimen Requirements: 2 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### 5641B Benzodiazepines Confirmation, Blood

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

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Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### 9329B Benzodiazepines Panel, Blood

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

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Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### 7673P Catecholamines, Fractionated and Free, Plasma



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## Test Updates

### Test Changes

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.  
Specimen Requirements (Special Handling) were changed.  
Stability was changed.

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Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Plasma

Transport Temperature: Frozen

Specimen Container: Green top tube (Sodium Heparin), Light Green top tube (Lithium Heparin)

Light Protection: Not Required

Special Handling: Patient Preparation:

1. Unless the purpose of the measurement is drug monitoring, discontinue any epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine injections or infusions for at least 12 hours before specimen draw.

2. Discontinue medications that release epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine or hinder their metabolism for at least 1 week before obtaining the specimen. If this is not possible for medical reasons, contact the laboratory and discuss whether a shorter drug withdrawal period may be possible in a particular case. The effect of medication on catecholamines results may not be predictable.

3. Do not perform the test on patients withdrawing from legal or illegal drugs known to cause rebound plasma catecholamine release during withdrawal.

4. The patient must refrain from eating, using tobacco, and drinking caffeinated beverages, tea or alcohol for at least 4 hours before the specimen is drawn. Avoid some types of food, such as walnuts and bananas for a week prior to sampling.

5. Avoid patient stress or anxiety. Children, particularly those under 2 years of age, often show an elevated catecholamine response to stress.

6. Patient should be calm and supine in quiet surroundings for at least 30 min prior to collection.

Specimen preparation:

Draw blood into chilled blood tube (an indwelling venous catheter is advocated).

Invert to mix with preservatives. Centrifuge within 30 minutes of collection

(refrigerated centrifuge preferred) and transfer the plasma to labeled plastic transport tube. Freeze immediately at -20 °C and ship frozen.

Promptly centrifuge and separate Plasma into a plastic screw capped vial using approved guidelines.

Rejection Criteria: Received Room Temperature. Received Refrigerated.

Stability: Room Temperature: Not Stable

Refrigerated: Not Stable

Frozen (-20 °C): 30 day(s)

#### 7677P Catecholamines, Fractionated and Free, Plasma

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.  
Specimen Requirements (Special Handling) were changed.  
Stability was changed.

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## Test Updates

### Test Changes

Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Plasma

Transport Temperature: Frozen

Specimen Container: Green top tube (Sodium Heparin), Light Green top tube (Lithium Heparin)

Light Protection: Not Required

Special Handling: Patient Preparation:

1. Unless the purpose of the measurement is drug monitoring, discontinue any epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine injections or infusions for at least 12 hours before specimen draw.
2. Discontinue medications that release epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine or hinder their metabolism for at least 1 week before obtaining the specimen. If this is not possible for medical reasons, contact the laboratory and discuss whether a shorter drug withdrawal period may be possible in a particular case. The effect of medication on catecholamines results may not be predictable.
3. Do not perform the test on patients withdrawing from legal or illegal drugs known to cause rebound plasma catecholamine release during withdrawal.
4. The patient must refrain from eating, using tobacco, and drinking caffeinated beverages, tea or alcohol for at least 4 hours before the specimen is drawn. Avoid some types of food, such as walnuts and bananas for a week prior to sampling.
5. Avoid patient stress or anxiety. Children, particularly those under 2 years of age, often show an elevated catecholamine response to stress.
6. Patient should be calm and supine in quiet surroundings for at least 30 min prior to collection.

Specimen preparation:

Draw blood into chilled blood tube (an indwelling venous catheter is advocated). Invert to mix with preservatives. Centrifuge within 30 minutes of collection (refrigerated centrifuge preferred) and transfer the plasma to labeled plastic transport tube. Freeze immediately at -20 °C and ship frozen. Promptly centrifuge and separate Plasma into a plastic screw capped vial using approved guidelines.

Rejection Criteria: Received Room Temperature. Received Refrigerated.

Stability: Room Temperature: Not Stable

Refrigerated: Not Stable

Frozen (-20 °C): 30 day(s)

#### 1615B Digoxin, Blood

Summary of Changes: Test Name was changed.

#### 7674P Dopamine - Free, Plasma

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.  
Specimen Requirements (Special Handling) were changed.  
Stability was changed.



## Test Updates

### Test Changes

Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Plasma

Transport Temperature: Frozen

Specimen Container: Green top tube (Sodium Heparin), Light Green top tube (Lithium Heparin)

Light Protection: Not Required

Special Handling: Patient Preparation:

1. Unless the purpose of the measurement is drug monitoring, discontinue any epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine injections or infusions for at least 12 hours before specimen draw.

2. Discontinue medications that release epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine or hinder their metabolism for at least 1 week before obtaining the specimen. If this is not possible for medical reasons, contact the laboratory and discuss whether a shorter drug withdrawal period may be possible in a particular case. The effect of medication on catecholamines results may not be predictable.

3. Do not perform the test on patients withdrawing from legal or illegal drugs known to cause rebound plasma catecholamine release during withdrawal.

4. The patient must refrain from eating, using tobacco, and drinking caffeinated beverages, tea or alcohol for at least 4 hours before the specimen is drawn. Avoid some types of food, such as walnuts and bananas for a week prior to sampling.

5. Avoid patient stress or anxiety. Children, particularly those under 2 years of age, often show an elevated catecholamine response to stress.

6. Patient should be calm and supine in quiet surroundings for at least 30 min prior to collection.

Specimen preparation:

Draw blood into chilled blood tube (an indwelling venous catheter is advocated).

Invert to mix with preservatives. Centrifuge within 30 minutes of collection

(refrigerated centrifuge preferred) and transfer the plasma to labeled plastic transport tube. Freeze immediately at -20 °C and ship frozen.

Promptly centrifuge and separate Plasma into a plastic screw capped vial using approved guidelines.

Rejection Criteria: Received Room Temperature. Received Refrigerated.

Stability: Room Temperature: Not Stable

Refrigerated: Not Stable

Frozen (-20 °C): 30 day(s)

#### 7675P Epinephrine - Free, Plasma

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.  
Specimen Requirements (Special Handling) were changed.  
Stability was changed.

Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Plasma

Transport Temperature: Frozen

Specimen Container: Green top tube (Sodium Heparin), Light Green top tube (Lithium Heparin)

Light Protection: Not Required

Special Handling: Patient Preparation:



# Test Updates

## Test Changes

1. Unless the purpose of the measurement is drug monitoring, discontinue any epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine injections or infusions for at least 12 hours before specimen draw.
2. Discontinue medications that release epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine or hinder their metabolism for at least 1 week before obtaining the specimen. If this is not possible for medical reasons, contact the laboratory and discuss whether a shorter drug withdrawal period may be possible in a particular case. The effect of medication on catecholamines results may not be predictable.
3. Do not perform the test on patients withdrawing from legal or illegal drugs known to cause rebound plasma catecholamine release during withdrawal.
4. The patient must refrain from eating, using tobacco, and drinking caffeinated beverages, tea or alcohol for at least 4 hours before the specimen is drawn. Avoid some types of food, such as walnuts and bananas for a week prior to sampling.
5. Avoid patient stress or anxiety. Children, particularly those under 2 years of age, often show an elevated catecholamine response to stress.
6. Patient should be calm and supine in quiet surroundings for at least 30 min prior to collection.

**Specimen preparation:**

Draw blood into chilled blood tube (an indwelling venous catheter is advocated). Invert to mix with preservatives. Centrifuge within 30 minutes of collection (refrigerated centrifuge preferred) and transfer the plasma to labeled plastic transport tube. Freeze immediately at -20 °C and ship frozen. Promptly centrifuge and separate Plasma into a plastic screw capped vial using approved guidelines.

Rejection Criteria: Received Room Temperature. Received Refrigerated.

Stability: Room Temperature: Not Stable  
Refrigerated: Not Stable  
Frozen (-20 °C): 30 day(s)

### 4261B Hypoglycemic Panel (Qualitative), Blood

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed. Units were changed.

Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Blood  
 Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
 Specimen Container: Lavender top tube (EDTA)  
 Light Protection: Not Required  
 Special Handling: None  
 Rejection Criteria: None  
 Scope of Analysis: LC-MS/MS (83788): Acetohexamide, Chlorpropamide, Glimepiride, Glipizide,  
 Method (CPT Code) Glyburide, Nateglinide, Repaglinide, Tolazamide, Tolbutamide

Compound Name	Units	Reference Comment
Acetohexamide	mcg/mL	
Chlorpropamide	mcg/mL	
Glipizide	mcg/mL	
Glyburide	mcg/mL	
Nateglinide	mcg/mL	





# Test Updates

## Test Changes

Compound Name	Units	Reference Comment
Repaglinide	mcg/mL	
Tolazamide	mcg/mL	
Tolbutamide	mcg/mL	

### 5682B Methadone and Metabolite Confirmation, Blood

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

Specimen Requirements: 2 mL Blood  
 Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
 Specimen Container: Gray top tube (Sodium Fluoride / Potassium Oxalate)  
 Light Protection: Not Required  
 Special Handling: None  
 Rejection Criteria: None

### 8722B Methadone and Metabolite, Blood

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

Specimen Requirements: 2 mL Blood  
 Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
 Specimen Container: Gray top tube (Sodium Fluoride / Potassium Oxalate)  
 Light Protection: Not Required  
 Special Handling: None  
 Rejection Criteria: None

### 7676P Norepinephrine - Free, Plasma

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.  
 Specimen Requirements (Special Handling) were changed.  
 Stability was changed.

Specimen Requirements: 1 mL Plasma  
 Transport Temperature: Frozen  
 Specimen Container: Green top tube (Sodium Heparin), Light Green top tube (Lithium Heparin)  
 Light Protection: Not Required  
 Special Handling: Patient Preparation:  
 1. Unless the purpose of the measurement is drug monitoring, discontinue any epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine injections or infusions for at least 12 hours before specimen draw.  
 2. Discontinue medications that release epinephrine, norepinephrine, or dopamine or hinder their metabolism for at least 1 week before obtaining the specimen. If this is not possible for medical reasons, contact the laboratory and discuss whether a



## Test Updates

### Test Changes

- shorter drug withdrawal period may be possible in a particular case. The effect of medication on catecholamines results may not be predictable.
3. Do not perform the test on patients withdrawing from legal or illegal drugs known to cause rebound plasma catecholamine release during withdrawal.
  4. The patient must refrain from eating, using tobacco, and drinking caffeinated beverages, tea or alcohol for at least 4 hours before the specimen is drawn. Avoid some types of food, such as walnuts and bananas for a week prior to sampling.
  5. Avoid patient stress or anxiety. Children, particularly those under 2 years of age, often show an elevated catecholamine response to stress.
  6. Patient should be calm and supine in quiet surroundings for at least 30 min prior to collection.

**Specimen preparation:**

Draw blood into chilled blood tube (an indwelling venous catheter is advocated). Invert to mix with preservatives. Centrifuge within 30 minutes of collection (refrigerated centrifuge preferred) and transfer the plasma to labeled plastic transport tube. Freeze immediately at -20 °C and ship frozen.

Promptly centrifuge and separate Plasma into a plastic screw capped vial using approved guidelines.

Rejection Criteria: Received Room Temperature. Received Refrigerated.

Stability: Room Temperature: Not Stable

Refrigerated: Not Stable

Frozen (-20 °C): 30 day(s)

#### 9231FL Pheniramine Screen, Fluid

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements were changed.

- Specimen Requirements: 5 mL Fluid  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Plastic container (preservative-free)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None

#### 3560B Pheniramine, Blood

Summary of Changes: Specimen Requirements (Specimen Container) were changed.

- Specimen Requirements: 3 mL Blood  
Transport Temperature: Refrigerated  
Specimen Container: Gray top tube (Sodium Fluoride / Potassium Oxalate)  
Light Protection: Not Required  
Special Handling: None  
Rejection Criteria: None



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## Test Updates

### Discontinued Tests

Test Code	Test Name	Alternative Test
1699B	Dinitro-p-Cresol, Blood	No Alternate Tests Available
1699SP	Dinitro-p-Cresol, Serum/Plasma	No Alternate Tests Available
1699U	Dinitro-p-Cresol, Urine	No Alternate Tests Available
8077B	Drug Impaired Driving/DRE Toxicology Inhalants Add-On, Blood (Forensic)	8082B - Drug Impaired Driving/DRE Toxicology Inhalants Add-On, Blood (Forensic)
8077U	Drug Impaired Driving/DRE Toxicology Inhalants Add-On, Urine (Forensic)	No Alternate Tests Available