11.09.2016

FROM THE DESK OF:

Anthony P. Weiss, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, Upstate University Hospital



High Incidence of C Diff for Month of October

Applies to All Physicians

We have noticed an increase in number of Clostridium difficile (C.difficle) cases in our hospital, below is a breakdown of the review:

C Diff Advisory

Positive Hospital-Acquired Cases: 16

Monthly Average (Last 12 months): 8.33

Monthly Average (Last 6 months): 7.66

Number of Patients Tested

While on Stool Softeners or Laxatives: 8

With Less Than 3 Loose Stools: 3

With Solid Stool or No Recent Stool: 1

Take home points:

Only test for C. difficile when a patient has 3 or more loose stools within 24 hours.

Sending formed stool is unacceptable and will require hospital epidemiologist approval!

Per policy, do not test for C. difficile if a patient has been on stool softeners or laxatives within the previous 24-48 hours.

Do not test a patient for C. difficile when they have a negative culture within 7 days, or when there is a previous positive culture within 28 days.

If a patient has loose stools on admission and C. difficile is suspected, order testing within first 72 hours and keep patient on Contact Plus precautions.

ALERT-Highest priority emergency communication; warrants immediate action or attention by the recipient.

HIGH ADVISORY-High priority does not warrant immediate action but recipients should be aware.

ADVISORY-Provides very important information for a specific incident or situation that does not require immediate action.

UPDATES TO ALERTS AND ADVISORIES-Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

 $\textbf{INFORMATIONAL MESSAGE} - Provides \ timely \ information, important \ for review \ or serves \ as \ a \ reminder \ for \ an \ action \ that \ should \ be \ taken.$

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Policies/Procedures:

IC D-03 Clostridium Difficile Procedure

IC D-04 Clostridium Difficile Prevention

Please contact us with any questions:

Waleed Javaid, MD Hospital Epidemiologist Mitchel Brodey MD Hospital Epidemiologist

Downtown Campus javaidw@upstate.edu

Community Campus brodeym@upstate.edu

Department of Infection Control

Downtown Campus: 315 464 5258 Community Campus: (315)492-5442

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Progesterone Assay

Applies to Downtown Physicians

Assay Advisory The Core Laboratory at the Downtown Campus announces an improved progesterone assay, starting December 1, 2016.

Changes:

- ✓ Lower normal range in populations where the progesterone levels are generally low, due to less cross-reactivity with other steroid hormones/metabolites.
- ✓ Ovulation phase reference ranges are changing significantly, as the new ranges have been established between 12-16 days, an earlier time of the cycle than in the old assay.
- ✓ Traceable to ID-GC/MS reference methods.

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Method: Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA), by Roche Diagnostics

Normal Ranges:	New (ng/mL)	Old (ng/mL)
Male	<0.149	0.2-1.4
Female (phase)		
Follicular	0.057-0.893	0.2-1.5
Ovulation	0.121-12.0	0.8-3.0
Luteal	1.83-23.9	1.7-27.0
Post-menopause	<0.126	0.1-0.8
1 st trimester	11.0-44.3	
2 nd trimester	25.4-83.3	
3 rd trimester	58.7-214	

If you have any questions, please contact Katalin Banki, M.D., Director of Core Laboratory or Stephen Gwilt, MS,MT(ASCP)SH,SC, Supervisor. Core Laboratory at 464-6830.

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Outstanding Physician Comments

Applies to All Physicians

Each week we receive written comments from our patients regarding the care we provide within the Hospital. Below are this week's comments from grateful patients receiving care on the units and clinics at Upstate:

Comments Informational

AP1– Dr Bhatta impressed me.

Apheresis – All the doctors!

Psychiatry Inpatient - This is the best staff I have ever seen. I'm a doctor from Egypt. I did

not see care like this, how they are teamwork together to goal to make me comfortable and happy. I appreciated what they have done for me. Drs. Megna, Luba Leontieva, psychology intern Jeff Gerry, the occupational therapist and Linda the RN which is the best nurse I have ever seen. Thank you so much.

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Dr. Leontieva pointed out a clear goal for outpatient therapy.

The Surgery Center - CG – Dr Van Valkenburg: very compassionate and informative.

Dr. Daly: explained procedures very well.

Dr. Van Valkenburg, all the nurses and the anesthesia dr. They were all very caring.

Breast Imaging –Dr. Lisa Lai was so professional and reassuring.

Midwifery Clinic - CG -Dr. Millar was very professional and caring, taking the initiative to make sure my medical records are up to date and respecting my needs.

5A - Dr. King and his trauma staff were great.

5B –Dr. King is an excellent, supreme doctor and surgeon.

8F – Drs. Howland and Singh were professional, compassionate and cared for my day like family.

Dr. Dunton - best doctor!

9G –I will recommend Dr. Hall any day. He's very nice and a good doctor.

10E –Drs. Benjamin and Hemke are the best – very concerned and upbeat.

University Cardiology –Dr. Chaudhuri exceeded my expectations.

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University Geriatricians –Dr. Berg is outstanding, compassionate, knowledgeable and incredibly genuine in her manner and approach.

Dr. Berg is always worth a small wait because once you are with her she seems like she has all the time required to spend with you. We never feel rushed or pushed aside.

Dr. Bahn is very dedicated, patient, caring and gentle and knowledgeable with my wife. She spends as much time as needed and does not rush to another patient.

Upstate Urology –Dr. Ferry was able to fit me in on very short notice.

University Center for Vision Care— Dr Swan was very good. Thanks!

Dr. Najafi was very kind and explained everything.

Joslin Center for Diabetes –We are fortunate to have Dr. Kelly as our provider.

Surgery UH –Dr. Costanza is an excellent doctor and I have complete confidence in him.

University Cardiology –Dr. Chaudhuri gave me his cell phone number and has always answered my calls. Trust him completely.

Dr. Kozman super nice, down to earth guy.

Dr. Szomhathy - thoroughness and compreh

Dr. Szombathy - thoroughness and comprehensive explanation of diagnosis/resolution.

Dr. Carhart - always understanding regarding my needs.

ENT – Dr. Woods!! For seeing me on such short notice and treating me with utmost respect!

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