

Nepenthe Laboratory Service Announcement

Changes in Testing Menu and Reporting

Nepenthe Laboratory Services would like to announce three important changes that to our laboratory services that are included in this notification and will be implemented August 1, 2017.

Change in Presumptive Screening Menu

As of August 1, 2017, Nepenthe Laboratory Services will no longer be offering EtG (ethyl glucuronide) on our presumptive screening menu. EtG as well as EtS will be still offered as a definitive testing option.

Ethanol (alcohol) will added to replace EtG on the presumptive screening menu with a cut off value of 100 mg/mL. When a result is at or above the 100 mg/mL cut off limit, then that value will be flagged as "POSITIVE". Please note that a "POSITIVE" Ethanol result WILL NOT directly reflex to EtG/EtS definitive testing. EtG/EtS will need to be ordered separately on the requisition form, and providers are reminded that all testing ordered should be patient specific and medically necessary for the treatment of the patient.

Questions about the benefits and limitations of Ethanol and Alcohol Biomarker testing should be directed to a clinical laboratory team member.

Update of the THC-COOH Definitive LC-MS/MS Cut Off

As of August 1, 2017, the cut-off limit for definitive testing of THC-COOH will be updated from 25 ng/mL to 50 ng/mL. Any specimens that are definitively tested for THC-COOH that have values below than the 50 ng/mL cut-off will be flagged as "Not Detected".

Change in Specimen Validity Reporting Values

All specimens received on and after August 1, 2017 will be tested with the revised testing procedures that have been outlined below. As a reminder, specimen validity is a not a billable service, and this testing is performed on every sample that is recieved at Nepenthe.

Analyte	Current Reporting Flag	Current Reporting Range	Revised Reporting Criteria and Comment
CREATININE	Normal / Abnormal with a Numerical Value	20-200 mg/dL	Range > 20 Low and Normal Flags Numerical Values will NOT be Reported
SPECIFIC GRAVITY	Normal / Abnormal with a Numerical Value	1.003-1.035	Range- No Changes Low, Normal, High Flags Numerical Values will be Reported
pH	Normal / Abnormal with a Numerical Value	4.5-9.0	Range- No Changes Low, Normal, High Flags Numerical Values will be Reported
OXIDANTS	Normal / Abnormal with a Numerical Value	200	Range- No Changes Low, Normal, High Flags Numerical Values will NOT be Reported