

Laboratory News and Analysis for Clinicians

February 2020

Monoclonal Antibody Screening and Protein Electrophoresis

We wish to remind providers of the most efficient option to screen for monoclonal gammopathy:

Monoclonal Protein Evaluation (Epic LAB2226, Sunquest MPE).

- The Monoclonal Protein Evaluation begins with a Serum Protein Electrophoresis (SPEP) and Serum Free Light Chain (SFLC) analysis.
- Immunofixation, Serum (IFES) is ordered reflexively if the SFLC is abnormal or if indicated by pathologist review of the SPEP.

If the results of the MPE are normal and amyloidosis is suspected, a 24 hour Urine Protein Electrophoresis should be ordered. Otherwise, urine testing is not required for screening.

Also, effective 2/11/2020, we are simplifying the urine protein electrophoresis test menu with this consolidation:

- Protein Electrophoresis, Urine 24 hour (Epic LAB438, Sunquest UPEP)
 This test will include quantitation of any monoclonal peak (Bence-Jones Protein) if present. If indicated by pathologist evaluation, a Urine Immunofixation will also be performed.
 To reflect these changes, the test description changes to Protein Electrophoresis, w/monoclonal quant, Urine, 24 Hr.
- Bence Jones Protein, Urine 24 hour (Epic LAB366, Sunquest QBEN)
 This test will no longer be orderable because it is the same test as the revision noted above.