



February 26, 2016

CHANGES IN CD4/CD8 T Lymphocyte TESTING

Effective March 14, 2016

The DSM Immunology Laboratory at HSC will be performing CD4/CD8 counts (monitoring of CD4 lymphocyte counts related to diagnosis and follow-up of acquired immunodeficiency) with a new flow cytometry-based instrument, AQUIOS™.

Due to the differential deterioration of cells in aging samples, specimens must now be *received* in the Immunology Laboratory by 1600 hr. (Exception: Fridays and/or the day preceding a long weekend when the cutoff is extended to 1700 hr.)

There will be no change in reference ranges or specimen collection

- Collection tube: Lavender top (EDTA), must send original tube
- Transport: 18-26°C
- Sample Volume: 1 mL minimum

Count accuracy is optimal in samples <24 hours old. Samples analyzed between 24 and 48 hours post collection will have absolute counts which, on average, are 15% lower.

Specimens received >48 hours post collection will be rejected, as count accuracy will be severely compromised.

For your convenience, the Immunology Requisition link follows:

<https://apps.sbgh.mb.ca/labmanual/test/loadDocumentPdf?documentId=55>

For questions or concerns, please contact:

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