



MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9-9-09

TO: NPL Clients

FROM: Rhonda Burgard, MT (ASCP), BB, MPA
Todd Pace, MT (ASCP)
Paul Nelson, IT Supervisor

RE: Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate

Effective 9-9-09 Northern Plains Laboratory will be reporting eGFR with all adult (=18 years of age) serum creatinine results. This calculation will be reported as a “reflexed” test to the “CRE” test code (Reflex test codes are “GFRF (female)” or “GFRM” (male)). For these results to cross an interface to your LIS or EMR, some clients with interfaces may need to build these additional test codes.

Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) can be an excellent tool for assessing kidney function and determining the level of kidney function. EGFR calculated using Modified Diet in Renal Disease (MDRD) Study equation provides a more clinically useful measure of kidney function than serum creatinine alone. The equation takes in account several factors that impact creatinine production such as age, gender and race. The ND College of Physicians, ND Medical Association and ND Department of Health encourages the incorporation of eGFR into physician practices and laboratory evaluations.

The MDRD Study equation for the calculation of eGFR is available on the NKDEP website at www.nkdep.nih.gov. There are two equations available. One equation is the original MDRD Study equation that should be used with creatinine methods that have not been calibrated to an IDMS traceable standard. The other is the IDMS traceable MDRD study equation that should be used with creatinine methods standardized to an IDMS traceable standard. Northern Plains Laboratory utilizes a creatinine method standardized to the IDMS traceable standard and has the ability to calculate and report eGFR values from these serum creatinine levels on patients greater than 18 years of age.

If you have questions or concerns please contact Rhonda Burgard, Todd Pace or Paul Nelson at 1-701-530-5700 or 1-800-645-1003.