



To: VCU Health Physicians, Housestaff and Nurses

Grace R. Williams, Ph.D. *GRW*
Toxicology Director
Clinical Chemistry Associate Director

Susan D. Roseff, M.D. *SDR*
Chair, Division of Clinical Pathology

Date: March 20th, 2023

Re: **Serum levetiracetam and lamotrigine method change**

Dear Colleagues,

Effective Thursday, March 23rd, 2023 the VCUHS clinical laboratory will report serum lamotrigine (Lamictal) and levetiracetam (Keppra) results using a different method than previously utilized. In order to improve efficiency and peer comparisons, the laboratory will be switching to an immunoassay platform from the previous high-performance liquid chromatography method.

Method validation studies have indicated that there will be no appreciable change in levetiracetam values, however lamotrigine values will be approximately xyz% higher. The lamotrigine results using the new method are consistent with a liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry method. The lamotrigine values will be approximately 2µg/mL higher than previous reported values for this drug.

All other test parameters will remain the same including reference interval and interpretive comments.

Please contact Grace Williams at grace.r.williams@vcuhealth.org with any questions or concerns.

Division Chair

Susan D. Roseff, MD
Interim Chair of Pathology
Professor

Laboratory Operations

Roxanne Mercer, MS, MT(ASCP)
Director
Carol McClure, MHA, BS MT (ASCP)
Associate Director

Clinical Chemistry

Greg Miller, PhD
Co-Director and Professor
Lorin Bachmann, PhD
Co-Director and Professor
Grace Williams, PhD
Associate Director and Assistant Professor

Hematology

Alden Chesney, MD
Director, Associate Professor
Roger Riley, MD, PhD
Director and Professor
Director, Hemostasis
Guanhua Lai, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Rajeswari Jayakumar, MD
Assistant Professor
Chelsea Kidd, MD
Assistant Professor

Immunology

Justin Dalton, MD
Director and Assistant Professor

Lab Information Systems

Greg Miller, PhD
Director and Professor

Microbiology/Virology

Christopher Doern, PhD
Director and Associate Professor
Alexandra Bryson, PhD
Associate Director and Assistant Professor

Toxicology

Grace Williams, PhD
Director and Assistant Professor

Transfusion Medicine

Kimberly W. Sanford, MD
Director and Associate Professor
David S. Wilkinson, MD, PhD
Associate Director and Professor Emeritus