



Technical Memorandum

TO: Physicians and Clinical Staff

FROM: Dr. Matthew J. Bankowski, PhD, D(ABMM)
V.P. – Director, Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease

DATE: April 16, 2009

SUBJECT: Change in Occult Blood Testing

Effective Monday, April 27, 2009

Occult Blood testing will be changed from the Hemocult SENSE to the Hemocult ICT (Immunochemical Test). The new test is specific for human blood and will greatly reduce false positive results related to diet and non-human blood consumption. It will also allow for the elimination of dietary restrictions currently required for the Hemocult SENSE test. This will encourage more compliance with specimen submissions to the clinical laboratory.

Test Information

Analyte	Unit Code	Specimen Requirement
Occult Blood - Screening	602	3 specimens on separate days
Occult Blood – Diagnostic	602D	1 specimen

Test Frequency Daily

Patient Information

Specimens should **not** be collected 3 days before, during, or after their menstrual period, have bleeding hemorrhoids, blood in their urine, open wounds, or if they have strained during their bowel movement.

A diet high in roughage can increase test accuracy by uncovering lesions which bleed intermittently.

CPT Codes Screening – G0328QW
Diagnostic – 82274QW (Must use ICD 9 code)

Please contact the Microbiology Department with any questions at (808) 589-5203.