

LAB ALERT

Date: January 28, 2016

New Test: Cell Surface Markers – Rituxan Therapy Panel by Flow Cytometry

Dear Regional Pathology Clients,

We are excited to announce that the Flow Cytometry Laboratory is now performing flow cytometry analysis for **evaluation of patient response to Rituxan therapy**.

Rituxan (Rituximab) is a chimeric monoclonal antibody against CD20 on the surface of normal and malignant B-cell lymphocytes. Rituxan therapy depletes CD20-positive B-cells and is used to treat B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, autoimmune diseases, and transplant rejection.

The assay is designed specifically for monitoring B-cell suppression in patients on Rituxan treatment. The relative and absolute numbers of lymphocytes, T-cells and B-cells including CD20-positive and CD20-negative B-cells will be reported.

Test Code: RITUX

Specimen Requirements: EDTA anti-coagulated peripheral blood, 3 to 5 mL, kept at room temperature. Test must be performed within 48 hours of draw time. A CBC and differential must be ordered and performed at the same time.

For any questions or pricing you may contact one of our client coordinators, Brian Lenz, blenz@unmc.edu 402-559-7897 or Dana El-Hajjar, delhajja@unmc.edu, 402-559-9129.

24/7 Client Services 1-800-334-0459