



LABORATORY ALLIANCE of Central New York, LLC

**Change in Test Methods for:
Measles IgG, Mumps IgG, Rubella IgG, Varicella Zoster IgG**

Laboratory Alliance is pleased to announce a change in methodology for immune status assays for Measles (Rubeola), Rubella, Mumps and Varicella Zoster. Effective October 3, 2011, these assays will be performed on the BioRad BioPlex 2200 using state-of-the-art multiplex bead flow immunoassay. Serum remains the specimen of choice for each of these assays. Testing is performed at our Operations Center Monday – Friday.

It is important to note that the format for reporting will change from a numerical result to a qualitative result (Positive, Negative or Equivocal). In the case of Measles IgG, Mumps IgG and Varicella IgG, the previously reported numerical result was an antibody index, or a numerical comparison to a known standard cutoff. Antibody indices are not intended to be used quantitatively. Above the positive cutoff, detection quickly becomes nonlinear and numerical values are not meaningful. Although reported as numerical values, indices are interpretable only as positive or negative in comparison to assay-specific reference ranges. Mirroring the reporting for our EBV serology assays (which are also performed by this method), results for these assays will be directly noted as positive, negative or equivocal without the need for comparing a numerical result to reference ranges.

Assay	Test Code	CPT Code	Billing Code
Measles IgG	MIGG	86765	2010062
Mumps IgG	MUMP	86735	2010064
Rubella IgG	RBIGG	86762	2010065
Varicella IgG	VZIGG	86787	2010070

Method:	Multiplex bead immunoassay
Specimen Requirements:	One SST tube; 1.0 mL serum minimum. Heparinized plasma is also acceptable.
Unacceptable:	Avoid hemolysis.
Stability:	Refrigerated: 7 days
Storage and Transport:	Refrigerated
Schedule of Testing:	Monday through Friday

Questions regarding these tests may be directed to Cheryl Haskins, MS, MT(ASCP)SC, Manager of Chemistry and Referral Testing, at 315-410-7014 or cherylhaskins@lacny.com.

9/6/11, cmh

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