HealthEast Laboratories is pleased to announce we will be updating the Syphilis testing cascade and adopt a reverse
sequence Syphilis Serology testing Algorithm recommended by the US Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6005a1.htm). The CDC states
that presumptive diagnosis requires the use of two serologic tests: a treponemal assay and a non-treponemal assay.

Starting 3/6/2018, the HealthEast Syphilis Screen Cascade (LAB494) should be the initial order to evaluate patients for
syphilis status. The test requires 2 ml of plain red top serum to allow for all possible cascade tests to be performed.

The first test done on the Syphilis Screen Cascade will be the Treponema Antibody (Syphilis), a chemiluminescent
immunoassay (CLIA) performed on the Diasorin Liaison XL analyzer at St. Joseph’s Hospital.

If the result of the Treponema Antibody (Syphilis) test is **Positive** or **Equivocal**, a RPR Screen with Reflex (Rapid Plasma
Reagin-a non-treponemal test) will reflex for an additional charge, and be performed at HE St. Joseph’s Laboratory.

If the result of the RPR Screen is **Reactive**, a RPR Titer (LAB3143) is performed. If the result of the RPR Screen is **Non-
reactive**, a Treponema Pallidum Antibody by TP-PA is performed.

For more information on the significance of testing from the Syphilis Screen Cascade, please refer to the attached
HealthEast Medical Laboratory Syphilis Serology testing Algorithm-March 2018.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to provide you with high-quality, reliable, laboratory test results. Input from the
clinical providers we serve is a valuable resource as HealthEast Medical Laboratory strives to continually improve our
services.

Please contact Dr. Joseph Leverone at 651-232-3573 or Craig Rousar at 651-232-3002 with questions or for more
information.

A copy of this memo and the algorithm will be posted on the Laboratory page in the Clinical Services tab on the Infonet.
Look for the Chemistry section under resources.