

# SAINT FRANCIS HEALTH SYSTEM LABORATORY UPDATE

DATE: January 21, 2009

TO: Medical Staff

FROM: Sigrid Wayne, MD, Pathologist  
Jay Hupp, MT(ASCP)SC, Laboratory Technical Services Manager

SUBJECT: Immunosuppressant Testing Method Change

Effective January 21, 2009, the laboratory at Saint Francis Hospital will change test methods for the immunosuppressant drugs Cyclosporine, Sirolimus, and Tacrolimus. This new method, known as Chemiluminescent Microparticle Immunoassay, provides improved precision and sensitivity. In the case of Tacrolimus, the European Consensus Recommendation is to achieve functional sensitivity less than 1 ng/mL. This new method is the only automated immunoassay available in the marketplace that meets this criterion. The improvement in low-end precision and accuracy with this new method supports the use of lower Tacrolimus dosing to reduce long-term adverse events and the treatment of Polyoma Virus (BK).

Reference ranges for Cyclosporine and Tacrolimus will not change. However, reference ranges for Sirolimus will change.

<b>Immunosuppressant</b>	<b>Current Reference Range</b>	<b>New Reference Range</b>
Cyclosporine	150-300 ng/mL	150-300 ng/mL
Sirolimus	6.0-18.0 ng/mL	<b>4.0-12.0 ng/mL</b>
Tacrolimus	7.0-19.0 ng/mL	7.0-19.0 ng/mL

Questions regarding this new method should be directed to Dr. Sigrid Wayne or Jay Hupp at 494-1300.