

# **SAINT FRANCIS HEALTH SYSTEM LABORATORY UPDATE**

DATE: September 1, 2009

TO: Medical Staff

FROM: Laura Van Newkirk, MD, Laboratory Medical Director  
Jay Hupp, MT(ASCP)SC, Laboratory Technical Services Manager

SUBJECT: Vancomycin Trough Reference Range

Based on recommendations by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the Infectious Disease Society of America, the reference range for Vancomycin Trough levels will change from 5-10 µg/mL to 5-18 µg/mL effective September 1, 2009. The goals of maintaining higher trough levels are to improve penetration of the drug, increase the probability of optimal target serum vancomycin concentrations, and to improve clinical outcomes for complicated infections. This new recommended reference range is supported by the Pharmacy and Infectious Disease Departments here at Saint Francis Health System.

Questions regarding this change in reference range should be directed to Dr. Laura Van Newkirk or Jay Hupp at 494-1300.