

#### **AST ALT Test Update**

Spectrum Health Lakeland Laboratory has updated reference ranges for AST and ALT. The difference between our current reference ranges and these new reference ranges is the addition of the co-factor pyridoxal phosphate (Vitamin B6). This change is recommended by the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and ultimately will provide our patient population more accurate AST and ALT results.

Historically, if patients had a Vitamin B6 deficiency, their AST and ALT levels may have been falsely lower than the true values. This decrease was due to the lack of endogenous co-factor causing a slower reaction rate when we tested the patient sample. After we implement the new test across the system, you may notice an increase in your patient's AST and ALT results. This increase may be evidence that your patient had some degree of Vitamin B6 deficiency. If you were trending results, we recommend you establish a new baseline with the new reference ranges. Changes will go into effect April 28<sup>th</sup> @ 00:01.

Ordering information, price and related CPT code will remain unchanged.

For additional information or questions please contact SH Lakeland Laboratory Client Services:

- Call (269) 983-8311
- 1-800-513-9193