

Update to UVMHC PAP & HPV Testing

Effective 4/28/2021, UVMHC will modify the reflex algorithm for High Risk (HR) HPV testing to better align with the latest, age-based, ASCCP guidelines, <http://www.asccp.org>.

The new guidelines require that the Pap order include information defining the test as either screening or diagnostic.

- **Screening:** Routine exam, no recent abnormal results, not in follow up testing for dysplasia or abnormal results symptoms
- **Diagnostic:** Previous abnormal Pap findings, signs or symptoms, or has significant complaints related to the female reproductive system

HPV testing is reflexed from the Pap using different options based on the indication of screening or diagnostic:

For **Screening**, the HPV testing options are:

- HPV Regardless of Diagnosis (Co-Test) – This is for patients 30 years old and older. HPV will always be performed.
- HPV if ASCUS – This is for patients 25-29 years old. HPV testing will be performed if the Pap result is ASCUS.
- None (Note that Medicare patients 65 years or older are NOT eligible for HPV testing from screening Pap tests).

For **Diagnostic testing**, the HPV testing options are:

- HPV Regardless of Diagnosis (Co-Test) – This is for patients 30 years old and older. HPV will always be performed.
- HPV Regardless for other diagnostic testing – This is for patients that are 25-29 years old with previous abnormal Pap results that need HPV results for patient management.

**ASCUS – Atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance*

A series of questions will now appear at Epic order entry. The purpose of these is to collect the pertinent information needed to ensure proper HPV reflexing and proper billing.

Here are sample questions:

- 1) Is this for Screening or Diagnostic Purposes?

Response format: Free Text, but please just indicate Screening or Diagnostic

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2) If Screening, would you like reflex HPV Testing? If yes, the criteria for screening are “HPV Regardless of Diagnosis (CoTest)(Ages 30+ ONLY)” and “HPV if ASCUS (Ages 25 -29 ONLY)”

- a) Yes
- b) No

3) If Diagnostic, would you like reflex HPV Testing? If yes, the criteria for diagnostic are “HPV Regardless of Diagnosis (CoTest)(Ages 30+ ONLY)” and “HPV Regardless for Other Diagnostic Testing (Ages 25 - 29 ONLY)”

- a) Yes
- b) No

4) If HPV reflex testing is desired and if “HPV Regardless of Diagnosis (CoTest)(Ages 30+ ONLY)” is the criteria that will be met, would you also like reflex HPV Genotyping per guidelines?

- a) Yes
- b) No

5) Provide Reason for reflex HPV testing if “HPV Regardless for Other Diagnostic Testing (Ages 25 – 29 ONLY)” is the criteria that will be met for Diagnostic reflex HPV testing

Response format: Free text

There will be a total of 16 Ask at Order Entry questions. They cover screening/diagnostic/HPV questions, Medicare questions, and clinical history questions.

If the sample source is Vaginal and HPV testing is ordered, the sample will be sent to Mayo Medical Laboratory, as UVMHC has not validated HPV testing on this specimen type. If the sample source is Anus, HPV testing will not be performed in accordance with the limitations of the testing approved by FDA.

If HPV genotyping is ordered, it will be performed **ONLY if all three** of the follow criteria are met - age is 30-64 years old, Pap is NIL, **and** HR HPV Testing is Positive.

There are other indications for HPV testing that are not covered by these reflex criteria. To add on an HPV order, please fax the request to 802-847-3632. These requests will be reviewed using the ASCCP guidelines for appropriateness. If additional information is required, the ordering provider will be contacted. If the request is deemed appropriate, the reflex testing will be performed.

Please contact Christina Wojewoda, Microbiology Medical Director; Christina.Wojewoda@uvmhealth.org with questions or concerns.

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