Reporting Change for HIV RNA Quantitation and HCV RNA Quantitation



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On March 11, 2020, the Chemistry laboratory will revise the result reporting structure of the HIV 1 RNA Quantitation (LAB2678, HIVQU) and HCV RNA Quantitation (LAB2472, HCVQU) tests. This is to correct an issue with how results for both of these tests were structured to release with the upgrade to EPIC Beaker. In current state the result is listed as a single component with a quantitative value for the number of copies or IU per mL that were detected. For results where RNA from the virus was below the detectable limit, Beaker filed a result of 0 copies/IU per mL.

. However this is not technically correct as these assays have a lower limit of detection of 20 copies/mL and 15 IU/mL for HIV and HCV RNA, respectively.

To correct this issue, we have redesigned both tests to have two components each, a qualitative component that states that either the viral RNA is detected or undetected and a quantitative component that will give the measured viral copies/IU per mL for samples that have a detected qualitative result. For tests with a qualitative result of undetected, the quantitative result will be suppressed.

If you have any questions or concerns about this change please contact the Clayton Wilburn, MD Chemistry Medical Director.

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