



# Clinical Practice Change Alert

## Rifampin Serum/Plasma Analysis – Change in Service

**Date Effective:** August 21, 2013

### Background Information:

Mayo Laboratories has recently indicated that Focus Diagnostics will no longer provide rifampin (serum/plasma) testing. This has prompted a change in referral of samples for testing to NMS Labs.

### There is no consensus on the utility of measuring serum/plasma rifampin levels.

Analysis of serum/plasma rifampin levels should be isolated to cases where:

- response to therapy is slower than expected
- when malabsorption may be suspect
- drug resistant tuberculosis is present
- hepatic dysfunction is playing a role in treatment failure

In order to ascertain delayed absorption versus malabsorption, drug levels following oral dosing should be obtained at 2 hours and 4-6 hours after dose. There is no consensus on relationship between peak plasma/serum rifampin levels and outcomes. However, a dose increase is recommended if peak level is less than 6 µg/mL.

**Peak level:** A **fasting** sample should be collected 2 hours post dose following oral dosing and 45 minutes following IV infusion

**Trough levels: Not recommended**

### Change in Test Procedure:

Please note the following associated with this change in referral service

### Reference values:

- Peak plasma concentrations averaged  $16 \pm 11$  mcg/mL (range 5 to 27 mcg/mL) following 6 weeks of daily administration of 600 mg oral rifampin.

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- Comparable peak plasma concentration achieved with single 600 mg intravenous administration of rifampin
- Plasma concentrations 8 hours after a single intravenous administration of 600 mg rifampin averaged  $5.8 \pm 3.3$  mcg/mL on day one and  $2.6 \pm 1.9$  mcg/mL on day seven.
- Time to maximum concentration is significantly delayed and reduced for oral dosing given after the ingestion of food.

Source: Rifampin PI, Sanofi-Aventis, 2013; Ruslami, R, et al., Antimicro Agents Chemother 51(7):2546, 2007.

**Reporting limit:** > 0.5 mcg/mL

**More information:**

<https://apps.sbgh.mb.ca/labmanualviewer/viewTest.action?url=/test/14240>

**DSM Contact Information:**

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