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Announcement – Histocompatibility Laboratory Updates

HLA B27 Association: HLA-B27 Spondyloarthropathies

HLA-B*57:01 Association: Abacavir Hypersensitivity

HLA-DQ2/DQ8 Association: Celiac Disease

January 12th, 2021

Effective immediately, the Histocompatibility (HLA) laboratory has implemented new methods of testing for HLA-B27, HLA-B*57:01, and HLA-DQ2/DQ8. No change to test order entry, specimen type, or turn-around time.

The new methods specifically test for the HLA allele of interest: as such, reports will now provide clear reporting of the presence or absence of the HLA allele assessed, as well as provide test-specific interpretative background information.

Testing for HLA-B27 and HLA-B*57:01 will now be reported as POSITIVE or negative for the specified allele.

Testing for HLA-DQ2/DQ8 will now be reported as PERMISSIVE (with specific alleles noted) or negative. Of particular note, testing for HLA-DQ2/DQ8 will now include assessment for DQA1*05 with DQB1*02 (DQ2.5), to assist in further differentiating the likelihood of disease association.

For additional information, please contact Dr Graeme Quest (56-79616)