

## MEMORANDUM # 63

TO: UNC Hospitals Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Department Heads, Nursing Coordinators, Department Heads, and Supervisors

FROM: Mark Brecher, MD, Chair, McLendon Clinical Laboratories  
Catherine Hammett-Stabler, Ph.D., Associate Director, Core Laboratory  
Joseph Muenzer, M.D., Ph.D, Co-Director, Pediatric Metabolism Laboratory  
Robert Mills, Supervisor, Core Laboratory  
Connie Bishop, Assistant Administrative Director, Core Laboratory  
John F. Chapman, Dr.P.H., Director, Core Laboratory

DATE: October 5, 2006

**SUBJECT: Changes in Pediatric Metabolism Testing Menu**

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Due to a need to increase the frequency of testing for plasma amino acids and urine organic acids, the Core Laboratory is modifying the pediatric testing menu that is available on a routine basis.

Effective October 1, qualitative urine amino acids using HTLV, spot tests for glycosaminoglycans, and biotinidase are no longer performed in-house but will be sent to our reference laboratory, Mayo Medical Laboratories. Please contact Referral Testing (6-2362) for collection information.

Plasma amino acid testing and urine organic acid testing will now be performed twice a week in the Special Chemistry Laboratory.

Requests for rapid (<24 h) metabolic testing should be arranged through Referral Testing with prior approval by the clinical laboratory director. Contact Referral Testing at 966-2362 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the Core Laboratory supervisor at 966-2361 after hours and weekends for rapid requests.

For questions concerning these changes, please contact Dr. Hammett-Stabler in the Core Laboratory at 966-3724 or Robert Mils at 966-2361.