

Date: 5/19/2021

From: Rob Nerenz, Ph.D.  
Assistant Director of Clinical Chemistry

RE: Porphyria Testing Change

To simplify test selection for the evaluation of acute porphyria, three current eDH order codes will be inactivated and replaced by a single order code on 5/4/21.

**To be activated:**

- LAB3891, Quantitative Urine Porphyrins, Random
  - Preferred test during symptomatic periods for acute porphyrias (AIP, HCP and VP).
  - Includes porphobilinogen

**To be inactivated:**

- LAB4235, Quantitative Urine Porphobilinogen, Random
  - Included in LAB3891, inactivated to eliminate redundancy
- LAB433, Quantitative Urine Porphyrins, 24 Hr
  - Inactivated to eliminate delays associated with 24 hr urine collection
- LAB123, Total Plasma Porphyrins
  - Does *not* include porphobilinogen
  - Primarily useful for monitoring patients with PCT, not for the evaluation of acute porphyria
  - Inactivated as it is often mistakenly ordered during the evaluation of acute porphyria.
  - Will still be available as a miscellaneous test request when needed to monitor patients with PCT.

For questions concerning this memo, please contact Dr. Nerenz at [Robert.D.Nerenz@hitchcock.org](mailto:Robert.D.Nerenz@hitchcock.org).