**TO:** Dartmouth Health Providers

**FROM:** K. Aaron Geno, PhD, Assistant Director for Clinical Chemistry

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**Date:** September 19, 2024

**Re:** Free phenytoin – change in test frequency

**Situation:** Effective immediately, free phenytoin test frequency will be temporarily reduced to once daily. Total phenytoin will remain available on a 24/7 basis.

**Background:** Filters needed for the free phenytoin assay are on backorder through December. This filter is essential for performance of the test.

**Assessment:** Quality control material is filtered in parallel with patient testing. To reduce our frequency of quality control testing, prolonging our supply of filters, we are reducing the number of free phenytoin runs to one per day at 2:00 PM. Specimens received in the laboratory after approximately 1:30 PM will be tested the following day.

**Recommendation:** Providers should expect longer turnaround times for free phenytoin while the backorder continues.

**For questions or additional information, please contact:**

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