

# Laboratory Testing Update

Effective Date: 05/22/2025

To: Medical Staff

## Neurosyphilis IgG Antibody Index with VDRL, Serum and Spinal Fluid

The VDRL Screen, CSF-Mayo order has been discontinued by the Mayo Clinic Laboratories Reference Lab, and has been removed from the BVHS Laboratory test menu. This test has been replaced with the **Neurosyphilis IgG Antibody Index with VDRL, Serum and Spinal Fluid** order effective 05/22/2025. All existing orders, PowerPlans and Care Sets will be updated accordingly. This new method is an Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) for *T. pallidum*-specific antibodies to be used in the diagnosis of neuroinvasive syphilis disease. It assesses for intrathecally synthesized *T. pallidum* antibodies in CSF, correcting for passive antibody diffusion from serum into CSF.

## Notable Changes

- Both CSF and Serum (SST tube or Plain Red tube) will be required for the new test method. These specimens must be collected within 24 hours of each other.
- The specimen stability for the Neurosyphilis IgG Antibody Index with VDRL is 10 days at refrigerated or frozen temperatures. Refrigeration is the preferred method of storage.

## Cerner Order Name

Neurosyphilis IgG Antibody Index with VDRL, CSF and Serum-Mayo

- Includes **Neurosyphilis IgG Screen, CSF-Mayo, Neurosyphilis IgG, S-Mayo, and Neurosyphilis IgG Interp-Mayo**
  - \*\* Serum screen is only performed when CSF screen is reactive.
- Reflexes to **Neurosyphilis IgG, Ab Index Reflex ONLY-Mayo** and **VDRL Titer, CSF Reflex ONLY-Mayo**

## Reference Values:

- Neurosyphilis IgG Screen, CSF-Mayo: Negative
- Neurosyphilis IgG, Ab Index: 0.6 – 1.2
- VDRL Titer, CSF: Negative

## Questions/Concerns

- Blanchard Valley Hospital (BVH) Laboratory Main Office 419-423-5318