



TRICORE

CHANGES TO CANCER ANTIGEN 15-3 AND CANCER ANTIGEN 27.29 TESTING

Cancer antigens (CA) 15-3 and CA 27.29 are commonly measured in serum as tumor markers in breast cancer assessment. This technote provides important information regarding upcoming changes for both tumor markers.

On November 3rd, 2021, TriCore Reference Laboratories will be changing methods for measuring CA 15-3 (TriCore test code CA153). Orders resulted after the change will include a comment that contains the result as estimated from the current method to assist in re-baselining patients who are being monitored with this tumor marker.

Additionally, TriCore will discontinue testing for CA 27.29 (TriCore test code CA2729) before the end of the year. We recommend that patients who are currently being monitored with this tumor marker begin to be transitioned to being monitored with CA 15-3. Despite their unique names, the CA 15-3 and CA 27.29 antigens are from the same gene, MUC1, which codes for a mucin glycoprotein found on ductal cell surfaces and most glandular epithelia.

Beginning November 3rd, 2021, and continuing until TriCore discontinues CA 27.29 testing, CA153 will be added-on to all CA2729 orders at no additional charge.

