LAB ALERT
THE MEDICAL FOUNDATION

LAP (LEUKOCYTE ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE) SCORE TEST TO BE DISCONTINUED

Effective Date: June 1, 2016 **Performing Department**: Hematology

The Leukocyte Alkaline Phosphatase (LAP) score was developed in the 1950s to assist in the distinction between reactive neutrophilia (a leukemoid reaction), and myeloproliferative neoplasms such as chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML). The test is essentially a subjective analysis of the intensity of staining of secondary granules within maturing cells of the neutrophilic lineage. A LAP score is not specific for any disease process, but has been used in the past to guide additional testing.

The LAP score is currently not part of the World Health Organization (WHO) diagnostic criteria for CML or any other myeloproliferative neoplasm. Molecular genetics and cytogenetic methodologies are far more accurate for identifying and classifying these and other hematopoietic malignancies, and have supplanted the LAP score in clinical practice. The Medical Foundation, like some other larger clinical laboratories such as Mayo Medical Laboratories, will discontinue performing the LAP score largely as it is considered to be of little clinical value.

Effective June 1, 2016 blood smear Leukocyte Alkaline Phosphatase (LAP) score will no longer be performed at The Medical Foundation.

Recommended Alternative tests to the LAP score are:

- **Test Name:** BCR/ABL t(9;22) Translocation, D-FISH
  SBMF Number: 36134
- **Test Name:** BCR/ABL Gene Detection, Qualitative PCR, Diagnostic Assay
  SBMF Number: 36149
- **Test Name:** JAK2 (V617F) Mutation Analysis
  SBMF Number: 36140
- **Test Name:** Chromosome Analysis, Oncology, Bone Marrow or Blood
  SBMF Number: 45003
- **Test Name:** Pathologist Review of Peripheral Smear
  SBMF number: 25058

For questions, please contact Client Services at (574) 236-SBMF (7263), Amobi Ezenekwe, M.D. at (574) 251-1734, email: aezenekwe@sbmf.org or Bobbie Sutton, M.D. at (574) 236-1392, email bsutton@sbmf.org.

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