



PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL
威爾斯親王醫院

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To: All COSs & DMs of Pathology in HA

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**Hospital Authority Centralized
Serum Insulin-like Growth Factor (IGF-1) Testing Service**

Since the worldwide supply disruption of serum Insulin-like Growth Factor (IGF-1) immunoassay test kits in November 2012, Hospital Authority (HA) has outsourced the IGF-1 testing service to Quest Diagnostics, USA where IGF-1 analysis is performed using mass-spectrometric method.

With support from HA RAE funding, Department of Chemical Pathology, Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) has developed and validated a liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (LC-MS)-based assay for the quantitation of IGF-1 and its protein variants. Our IGF-1 LC-MS assay was traceable to international reference material and its analytical performance was comparable to the state-of-the-art methodology. Reference intervals of IGF-1 were adopted from Quest Diagnostics after inter-laboratory correlation of 235 samples showing insignificant bias between the two laboratory methods.

This new IGF-1 LC-MS assay will be implemented in April 2016 serving all HA hospitals. Specimen requirement would be **clotted-blood collected in Becton Dickinson red-top vacutainers** (see picture below), which are available upon request from PWH Chemical Pathology Laboratory. Specimen shall be centrifuged and aliquoted by the requesting HA laboratories. At least **two aliquots of 0.5 mL frozen serum in Sarstedt plastic aliquot tubes** shall be transported to PWH Chemical Pathology Laboratory for analysis. Turnaround time for result reporting will be reduced to 14 working days. HA laboratories and clinical departments will not be charged for our new IGF-1 testing service.

If there is any enquiry on our new IGF-1 service, please contact our Duty Biochemist at 2632 2685, or page through PWH Operator at 2632 2211.

Sincerely yours,

Prof LO Yuk Ming Dennis



BD red-top clotted-blood vacutainers, 2 ml and 4 ml