



PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL

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From: Professor CWK Lam
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To: All COSs
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Date: 23 March 2006

Pleural fluid/plasma Total Protein and LDH profile test for Light's discrimination criteria for exudative and transudative pleural effusions

Assessing the exudative or transudative nature of a pleural effusion has generally been referenced to Light's discrimination criteria, based on the relative contents of total protein and LDH in pleural fluid and blood plasma (Heffner JE et al. Chest 1997; 111; 970-80).

Starting from April 2006, we shall provide, for NTEC hospitals, a pleural fluid/plasma Total Protein and LDH profile test request to facilitate the laboratory investigation of exudative pleural effusion.

Please note the following arrangements:

- (1) The profile test is abbreviated as "Light's Criteria, fluid/blood"
- (2) It can be requested via the Generic Clinical Request System (GCRS) or using a paper request form
- (3) Tests will be available from:
 - 3rd April (Monday) 2006 at PWH, SH, BBH and SCH
 - 2nd May (Tuesday) 2006 at NDH, AHNH and TPH

If there are any queries on the above arrangements, please contact our Duty Biochemist at 2632-2658 or 2632-2331, or page through PWH Operator at 2632-2211 for discussion.

You are most welcome to use our new service.

Professor CWK Lam

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