

TriCore's Special Coagulation Lab has introduced a new generation of coagulation testing instruments. These analyzers perform protein S and protein C testing that is superior to prior assays and align with current expert guidelines. The new tests have replaced the previous ones and, while they are superior, do have several considerations to note (below).

PROTEIN S

Protein S activity testing was discontinued and has been replaced with Free Protein S Antigen testing.

- If low antigen is detected, confirmatory protein S activity will be sent to referral lab by special coagulation pathologist, if indicated.
- New assay will NOT detect type II mutations (which are exceedingly rare). If you suspect a type II mutation, you may want to consider sending out for protein S activity testing. Please notify TriCore's Special Coagulation Lab so they may assist with ordering (505-938-8844).
- New assay will detect type III mutations.
- New assay is affected by warfarin for up to 14 days.
- New assay is not affected by: DOACs (either Xa inhibitors or DTIs), lupus anticoagulants, Factor V Leiden, or elevated factor VIII levels (a significant advantage over the prior assay).
- New assay is built into hypercoagulable panel and is the only orderable Protein S testing performed locally.

PROTEIN C

Clotting-based protein C activity testing was discontinued and has been replaced with chromogenic protein C .

- New assay is a functional enzymatic assay to measure activity. If low activity is detected, confirmatory antigen testing will be sent out to referral lab by special coagulation pathologist, if indicated, to distinguish between type I and II deficiency.
- New assay can potentially miss a rare phospholipid-dependent type II variant but will detect the vast majority of type II mutations. If you suspect the phospholipid-dependent type II variant, consider send-out for protein C activity. Please notify TriCore's Special Coagulation Lab so they may assist with ordering (505-938-8844).
- New assay is affected by warfarin for up to 14 days.
- New assay is not affected by: DOACs (either Xa inhibitors or DTIs), lupus anticoagulants, factor V Leiden, elevated factor VIII levels (a significant advantage over prior assay).
- New assay looks the same in various ordering systems, since it is still a functional assay, and is the default protein C assay for all testing, including the hypercoagulable panel.

CONTACT

Please do not hesitate to contact TriCore's Special Coagulation Lab (505-938-8844) with any questions.