



Laboratory Technical Bulletin

Date: 3/1/2016

Effective Date: 3/1/2016

Title: Discontinuation of Helicobacter Pylori Antibody, IgG, Serum Testing by Mayo Medical Laboratories.

Test: Helicobacter Pylori Antibody, IgG, Serum

Explanation of change:

The Helicobacter Pylori Antibody, IgG, Serum, is now no longer available to order for testing. In an effort to conform to current *H. pylori* testing guidelines and to improve patient management, both the American Gastroenterological Association and the American College of Gastroenterology recommend that serologic testing for *H. pylori* be avoided as a means diagnosis of active *H. pylori* infection due to the following limitations:

- poor positive predictive value (PPV)
- poor performance characteristics of these assays compared to the alternative test *Helicobacter Pylori Antigen, Feces*
- serologic testing cannot be used to distinguish active from past infection or to document eradication of the organism following successful treatment.
- Lack of reimbursement from and increasing number of insurance providers

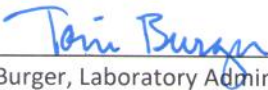
To minimize improper diagnosis and unnecessary treatment regimens, providers are requested to replace serologic evaluation of patients with suspected *H. pylori* infection with the stool antigen test.

	Old (Serum)	New (Stool)
<i>Perform Site</i>	Mayo Medical Laboratories	Mayo Medical Laboratories
<i>Method</i>	N/A	ELISA
Test Code	HPQ	HPSA
<i>Reference Range</i>	N/A	Negative
<i>Therapeutic Range</i>	N/A	Negative
<i>Specimen</i>	Serum	Stool
<i>Volume Required</i>	N/A	5g
<i>Turnaround time</i>	N/A	72 hours



Date 3/2/16

Dr. Daniel Sudilovsky, Laboratory Medical Director



Date 3-2-16

Toni Burger, Laboratory Administrative Director