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MEMORANDUM

Date: June 23, 2015

From: Thomas Fleisher, M.D., 
Chief, Department of Laboratory Medicine

Subject: Follow up to Add-On Test Pilot

To: All Patient Care Personnel

Six months ago the Department of Laboratory Medicine entered into an Add-On test request pilot that allowed for direct entry of Add-On test requests in CRIS by selecting a specified lab printer. The intent was to provide an easier avenue for investigators to add on additional lab tests to an initial order. Data collection during this pilot identified a number of major problems associated with the pilot including add-on tests ordered when there is no sample in the lab, add-on test requests prior to a sample having been collected (prevents merging the two different lab test requests), the sample requirement for the number of tests ordered via the Add-On request far exceeds the sample volume available in the laboratory (up to 8-12 additional tests) and there has been an overall increase in requests for Add-On testing. In addition, the development of the new Add-On test request was set-up such that the LIP was asked to provide additional information regarding the existing order, and this has not been provided with the majority of Add-On test requests. The aggregate impact of all of these problems has negatively impacted lab efficiency and in a number of cases has resulted in Add-On test requests not able to be performed due to inadequate sample.

After careful assessment, DLM has concluded that the Add-On test pilot has failed in the original intent and therefore **on and about the week of July 13, 2015** DLM will return to the previous add-on process which requires a phone call to the laboratory before entering an Add-On order in CRIS. Add-On labels will no longer automatically print in Accessioning (CRIS will note that the Add-On printer is no longer operational if it is selected). An option for Add-on tests has been added to our phone tree message to facilitate an easier process of connecting with the appropriate technologist to discuss an add-on test request.

Thank you for your participation in this pilot.