

## Changes to Blood Gas Testing: Serum ICA Will NOT be Accepted

Date: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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Effective Date: October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Following the successful launch of new blood gas analyzers at Highland Hospital (HH) in June of this year, Strong Memorial Hospital will update to this same equipment on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Several testing changes will occur at this time, aligning with the changes made at HH.

Ionized calcium (ICA) on serum is not an FDA approved fluid type on this equipment and will no longer be offered. Whole blood ionized calcium (WBICA) will continue to be offered and is the preferred sample type for this test.

Whole blood chloride will automatically be included in panels that currently include whole blood potassium and whole blood sodium.

Add-on requests to whole blood gas samples will not be accepted, due to instability of blood gas analytes.

Calculated hematocrit (HCT) will no longer be reported on Point of Care blood gas samples.

Several measuring ranges will change as indicated in the table below.

TEST	Units	Current	New ranges
<b>pH</b>		<b>6.80-7.70</b>	<b>6.95-7.70</b>
<b>pCO<sub>2</sub></b>	<i>mmHg</i>	<b>15-100</b>	<b>18-100</b>
<b>WBLAC</b>	<i>mmol/L</i>	<b>0.7-20.4</b>	<b>0.7 - 15.9</b>
<b>tHb</b>	<i>g/dL</i>	<b>3.0-21.0</b>	<b>3.0-19.0</b>

From: Richard Burack, MD, PhD  
Vice Chair of Clinical Operations, UR Medicine Labs UR Medicine Labs at Strong Memorial Hospital  
Director of Point of Care Testing  
Phone: (585) 273-1885  
E-mail: [Richard\\_Burack@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Richard_Burack@urmc.rochester.edu)