MEMORANDUM #31

TO: UNC Healthcare System Attending Physicians, House staff, Nursing Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM: Jessica K. Booker, PhD, Scientific Director, Molecular Genetics Laboratory
Karen Weck MD, Director, Molecular Genetics Laboratory
Herbert C. Whinna MD, PhD, Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

SUBJECT: Method Change for Hereditary Hemochromatosis (HFE) Mutation Testing

DATE: February 4, 2020

Effective February 10, 2020 the methodology for detection of the C282Y and H63D mutations in the HFE gene will be changed from a mutation-specific melting curve analysis to a TaqMan genotyping assay.

The change is made due to obsolescence of the instrumentation used for melting curve analysis and discontinuation of reagent kits by the manufacturer. There will be no change to reporting for these mutations.

Test ordering and specimen requirements remain unchanged, with 3 mL of blood in an ACD or EDTA tube. The assay is run once per week and turn-around time is 10 days.

If you have questions, please call the UNC Molecular Genetics Lab at (984) 974-1825 or contact Dr. Jessica Booker at (984) 974-1456. E-mail: Jessica.Booker@unchealth.unc.edu.

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