LAB ALERT

November 2026 | Body Fluid Name Change

Effective November 10, 2026, the reporting of WBC (White Blood Cell) count for body fluids will change to **TNC (Total Nucleated Cells)**. This is more accurate based on the results the lab reports from the automated analyzers.

Manual body fluid counts and manual body fluid differentials will also be updated to reflect these changes. Manual body fluid differentials currently include an "Other" line that will continue to be used to differentiate cells that are not neutrophils, lymphocytes, monocytoid cells, basophils or eosinophils. These cells will be identified with a comment stating what they are (i.e., atypical cells, bronchial lining cells, etc.).

Specimen Requirements:

No change in specimen requirements.

Test Performed:

No change - performed 24/7

This update will be implemented across Methodist Hospital, Women's Hospital, Jennie Edmundson, and Fremont. It will affect CSF, synovial fluid, serous fluids (peritoneal, pleural, pericardial), BALs, and bronch washes.

Please direct any questions to Dr. Shane Kohl at (402) 354-4558, Dr. Becki Goldberg-Kahn at (402) 396-6311, or Dr. Catherine Stoos at (402) 727-3736.