

TESTING UPDATE**NOTIFICATION DATE:** October 21, 2009**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 16, 2009**ThinPrep Screen with Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Reflex
#83342****ThinPrep Diagnostic with Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Reflex
#83343**

EXPLANATION: Effective November 16, 2009 Unit Codes #83342 and #83343 will no longer be offered for women less than 20 years of age.

The most recent consensus guidelines from the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ASCCP), together with its partner professional societies and federal and international organizations, state that high risk HPV DNA testing is not recommended for adolescents, regardless of cytology results. This position is also taken by the Cytopathology Education and Technology Consortium (CETC) in its recent Statement on Human Papillomavirus DNA Test Utilization.

The rationale for these recommendations is that adolescent women have a high prevalence of HPV infection but a very low risk for invasive cancer compared with older women. The vast majority of HPV infections in young women spontaneously clear within 2 years after the initial infection and are of little long term clinical importance. Over- treatment of these young women should be avoided because of the potential for harm due to loss of cervical tissue. Indeed the ASCCP recommends that in adolescents, if HPV testing is inadvertently performed, the results should not influence patient management.

Because of these recommendations, Mayo Medical Laboratories will no longer perform HPV reflex testing for women 20 years old and younger starting on November 16th, 2009. It is recommended that clinicians order routine screening or diagnostic cervical cytology without reflex testing for these young women. If reflex testing is inadvertently ordered, the test will be converted to the non-reflex test.

Resources:

<http://www.asccp.org/consensus/cytological.shtml>

QUESTIONS: Contact your Mayo Medical Laboratories' Regional Manager
Kim J. Baker, Mayo Medical Laboratories' Technologist Support
Telephone: 800-533-1710