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## Des Moines Laboratory Update

**Date: April 26, 2022**

### Changes to eGFR Equation

On April 27th, the calculation of eGFR from creatinine will change to the new CKD-EPI 2021 equation that does not include a race coefficient, as recommended by the National Kidney Foundation and the American Society of Nephrology's Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Disease. From April 27th-28th, both old and new calculation results will be provided. Beginning Friday, April 29th, however, the new equation will only report one value and will use nomenclature to distinguish results from older equations. The new eGFR<sub>cr</sub> (eGFR based on creatinine) equation has similar overall performance characteristics to the older equations and has been assessed to not have potential consequences that disproportionately affect any one group of individuals. For most patients the previous eGFR result will be similar, however, for some, the values may differ by more than 10% particularly at higher values of eGFR<sub>cr</sub> and for younger adult ages.

For eGFR results of 45-59 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>, it is recommended to confirm the current results with new values based on eGFR calculated using both creatinine and cystatin C. To confirm, the provider may order Cystatin C with Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR), Serum. Order test code is CSTCE. This testing will be performed at our reference laboratory, but we anticipate bringing this testing in house in the near future.

Please refer to the links below for additional background from peer-reviewed literary sources.

A Unifying Approach for GFR Estimation: Recommendations of the NKF-ASN Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Disease. Delgado, Cynthia et al. American Journal of Kidney Diseases, Volume 79, Issue 2, 268 - 288.e1  
<https://www.ajkd.org/article/S0272-63862100828-3/fulltext>

eGFR summary flyer for clinical workers. 2021. National Kidney Foundation.  
[https://www.kidney.org/sites/default/files/02-10-8361\\_icb\\_egfr\\_summary\\_flyer3.pdf](https://www.kidney.org/sites/default/files/02-10-8361_icb_egfr_summary_flyer3.pdf)

New Creatinine- and Cystatin C–Based Equations to Estimate GFR without Race. Lesley A. Inker, M.D., et al., for the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration\*. November 4, 2021. N Engl J Med 2021; 385:1737-1749. <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2102953>

Please reach out to Andrea Haynes, Laboratory Director for Hospital Services, at 515-643-2248 with any additional questions.

Thank you for choosing MercyOne Des Moines Laboratory.