

# PDL Chemistry Instrument Transition

## Santa Ynez Lab and PDL Core Lab Update

January 20, 2026

Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories (PDL) is transitioning to new chemistry and immunoassay testing systems.

NEW TESTING SYSTEMS:  
CHEMISTRY &  
IMMUNOASSAY

- Santa Ynez (SY) Cottage Health Hospital laboratory went live on December 9, 2025; prior notice provided to SY providers.
- PDL Core laboratory will go live in late February 24, 2026. The automated track will go live late March.
- Santa Barbara (SB) Cottage Health Hospital laboratory will go live in Q3 of this year.

### KEY CHANGES:

**Temporary Change to Routine Turnaround time (TAT):** PDL Core lab routine TAT has extended due to the replacement of the automation track. During this equipment transition, the specimens are being transported manually to the different testing system(s).

**Testing Lab/Test Routing:** The SY lab is now performing outreach testing collected at the Patient Service Centers (PSC) in Santa Ynez. In addition, PDL Core lab may route some routine work to SY lab to help manage TAT as needed.

**Reference Range, Reportable Range, Specimen Collection changes:** The second page of this notice outlines specific changes including:

- Reference range changes for AGAP, Bilirubin, Creatinine kinase (CK).
  - Due to the significant change from previous ranges, the results in CottageOne/Cottage Health Epic will be reported on a new line on the result tree for these tests.
  - Other tests not included on this list may also have minor reference range changes.
  - Result reports will reflect the reference range.
- Reportable range changes for CK and Lipase.
- Collection container changes for acetaminophen, ammonia, salicylate and valproic acid. Gel separator tubes and green top lithium heparin tubes are no longer acceptable.

### WHY PDL IS MAKING THIS TRANSITION:

Laboratory testing systems need to be replaced/upgraded on a regular cycle; like a car, parts wear out.

Thank you for your patience during this laboratory improvement initiative. Additional updates will be provided in advance of PDL Core lab go-live.

# PDL Chemistry Instrument Transition

## Santa Ynez Lab and PDL Core Lab Update

January 20, 2026

Test changes associated with this new system(s) at the SY lab:

REFERENCE RANGE CHANGES				
	Current		Effective December 9, 2025	
	Sex / Age	mmol/L	Sex / Age	mmol/L
<b>AGAP</b>	All	3-14	All	8-16
	Age	mg/dL	Age	mg/dL
<b>Bilirubin, Total (TBIL)</b>	0 - 2 days	2.0 - 6.0	<24 hours	≤ 8.0
	2 - 5 days	6.0 - 10.0	24 - <48 hours	≤ 13.0
	5 days - 1 month	4.0 - 8.0	48 hours - <1 month	≤ 17.0
	> 1 month	0.2 - 1.2	≥ 1 month - <18 years	≤ 1.0
			≥ 18 years	≤ 1.2
	Sex	U/L	Sex	U/L
<b>Creatine Kinase (CK)</b>	Female	26 - 192	Female	<170
	Male	39 - 308	Male	<190
	Sex	mg/dL	Sex / Age	mg/dL
<b>Creatinine</b>	Female	0.55 - 1.02	Premature Neonate - < 2 months	0.33 - 0.98
	Male	0.70 - 1.30	Full Term Neonate - < 2 months	0.31 - 0.88
			2 months - < 1 year	0.16 - 0.39
			1 - < 3 years	0.18 - 0.35
			3 - < 5 years	0.26 - 0.42
			5 - < 7 years	0.29 - 0.47
			7 - < 9 years	0.34 - 0.53
			9 - < 11 years	0.33 - 0.64
			11 - < 13 years	0.44 - 0.68
			13 - < 15 years	0.46 - 0.77
			Female	≥ 15 years
			Male	
				0.67 - 1.17

REPORTABLE RANGE CHANGES		
	Current	Effective December 9, 2025
<b>Creatine kinase</b>	≥ 7 U/L	7 – 22,000 U/L
<b>Lipase</b>	6 – 5,000 U/L	5 – 3,000 U/L

SPECIMEN COLLECTION TEST TUBE CHANGES		
	Current	Effective December 9, 2025
<b>Acetaminophen</b>	Green top or Red top or Gel barrier	Red top or Lavender top (EDTA)*
<b>Ammonia</b>	Green top (Lithium Heparin)	Lavender top (EDTA)
<b>Salicylate</b>	Red top or Gel barrier	Red top or Lavender top (EDTA)*
<b>Valproic Acid</b>	Green top or Red top or Gel barrier	Red top or Lavender top (EDTA)*

\*Gold top (gel barrier) or Tiger top (gel barrier) tubes are not acceptable.