

2018 Highlights:

- Improved PCR testing
- New fee schedule
- Updated Laboratory Information System

January 19, 2018

Dear Client:

We want to take a moment to thank you for decades of loyalty to the Toxoplasma Serology Laboratory. We have provided 56 years of uninterrupted services and leadership. (Please see attached list of our recent publications). Much of that success is because of you. We continue to have committed support from our organization, the Palo Alto Medical Foundation, and look forward to a strong future of innovation and service. We are making significant improvements that will be implemented in the near future to make providing results faster and more convenient for our clients. Please read below for recent updates to our operations and changes that will take place starting in 2018.

New gene target for PCR testing

We are excited to announce a significant improvement to our PCR test. In addition to the B1 gene target that we have used for a number of years, we have now added a second target, the 529bp sequence shown in European studies and in our lab to have greater sensitivity in the detection of *Toxoplasma gondii* DNA. Our lab has achieved 100% accuracy using this combination of targets with our unique primer and probe sequences in seven international proficiency assessments from Quality Control for Molecular Diagnostics (QCMD) over the past 5 years.

Fee revision effective March 19, 2018 (Please see attached fee schedule)

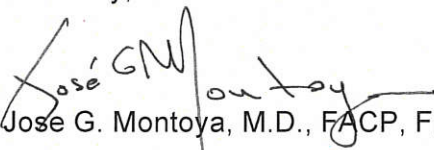
The Toxoplasma Serology Laboratory remains a **not for profit** institution and has not raised fees in 2 years. For this reason, the price increase is solely designed to cover increasing operational costs. This small but necessary adjustment to pricing reflects the value provided by "gold standard" testing and advice on results interpretation and patient management tailored to each case.


Laboratory Information System (LIS)


The transition to the Sunquest LIS will provide access to advanced information technologies with flexible and comprehensive tools that will enable our lab to provide faster results, interpretations, and advice on patient management. We will keep you updated on this transition and how it will benefit our clients.

We look forward to continuing to serve you in the coming years. As in the past more than 50 years, we will always be committed to providing services of the highest quality and maximizing the value we provide clients like you.

Sincerely,


Jose G. Montoya, M.D., FACP, FIDSA
Laboratory Director


Cindy Press, MLS (ASCP)
Laboratory Manager


Ian J. Selsky, MHA
Administrative Manager