

## **Changes in Regional Laboratory Quality Control Requirements**

The Michigan Regional Laboratory System (MRLS) has established specific Quality Standards that all participating laboratories are expected to comply with. We have evaluated the impact of these more stringent QC requirements on ensuring the quality of testing within the MRLS. Careful review of manufacturer requirements and review of QC records indicate that quality of testing will not be impacted if less stringent QC requirements are adopted. On March 15, 2011, the MRLS announced the adoption of minimal requirements for Quality Control based upon the requirements of the test manufacturer.

These changes are summarized as follows:

1. Hemoglobin by HemoCue: Quality Control is no longer required when opening a new bottle of the same lot number received in a shipment that has already been QC'd.
2. Whole Blood Glucose: QC is only required when a new kit lot number or a new test kit is received. Weekly QC is no longer required.
3. Urine Pregnancy: QC is only required when a new kit lot number or a new test kit is received. Monthly QC is no longer required.
4. Manual Urine Chemistry: No changes, monthly QC is still required.
5. Automated Urine Chemistry: Daily QC is required.