

POWERING AFFORDABLE CARE

by activating smarter
diagnostic lab testing



Turning lab stewardship into a cultural phenomenon at PeaceHealth

Situation

PeaceHealth is a not-for-profit healthcare system with medical centers, critical access hospitals, and medical clinics in Washington, Oregon, and Alaska. At the start of the PeaceHealth-Quest Diagnostics collaboration, the two organizations worked together to establish a sustainable lab stewardship program. **PeaceHealth wanted to implement lab stewardship across the entire health system and optimize lab testing.**

Challenges

PeaceHealth invited Quest to collaborate and develop ways to build alignment and consistency when implementing lab stewardship principles throughout the system's 10 hospitals. The challenge was accessing meaningful data from across the entire health system.

Solution

PeaceHealth established its lab stewardship committee and worked closely with Quest to keep it active, engaged, and aligned across the system. Quest extracted and analyzed data to help identify opportunities to optimize lab testing and improve patient outcomes.

PeaceHealth enacted the following actions based on lab stewardship insights:

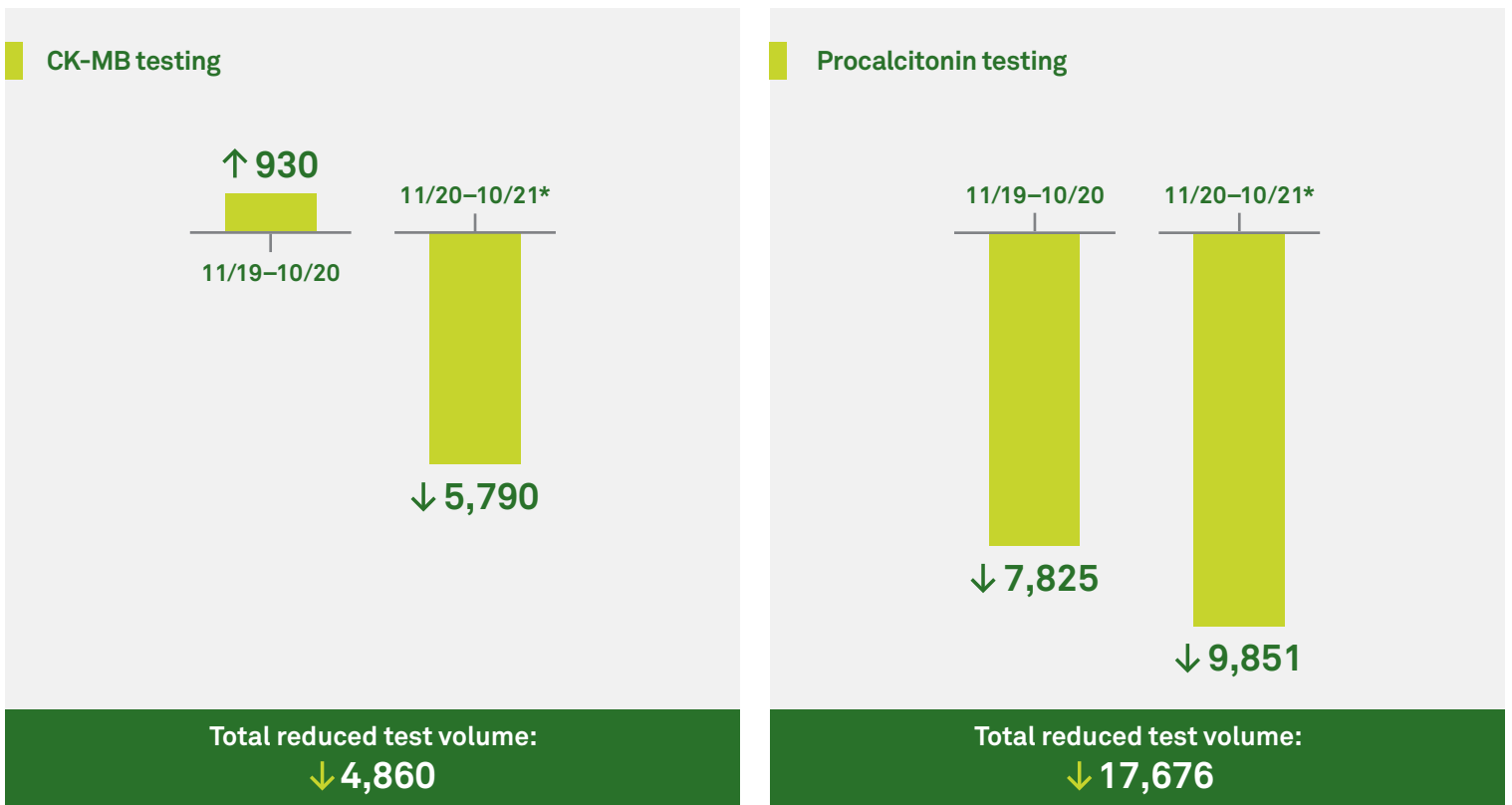
- **Removed procalcitonin from the test menu.** Procalcitonin is a limited-utility assay for diagnosing bacterial infection.
- **Eliminated CK-MB testing.** CK-MB is a limited-utility assay for diagnosing heart attacks and was replaced with troponin testing, which has greater sensitivity and specificity.
- **Created new naming conventions for urinalysis testing.** The new test names help clinicians choose the most time- and cost-effective urinalysis testing solution—for example, the Urinalysis with Reflex to Microscopic test vs Urinalysis, Microscopic test, which required lab technicians to prepare a slide whether or not it was necessary.

Results

Working with Quest, PeaceHealth has **developed a vibrant and productive lab stewardship program** and **achieved its goal to extend the program to all 10 hospitals**. The program ultimately benefits patient care, helping to ensure the right test for the right patient at the right time.



Reduced test volume, actual and projected, 11/19–10/21



*Projected



Take action from insight to standardize lab testing across your health system.

Contact your Quest Diagnostics sales representative to learn more or visit health.questdiagnostics.com/labstewardship.

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