High Sensitivity Troponin FAQ

Question	Answer
1) What is high-sensitivity troponin test (hsTnI)?	The high-sensitivity troponin I test (hsTnI) is the latest generation cardiac enzyme test that allows for precise detection of very low levels of troponin I (TnI). It can help to diagnose heart attacks more quickly, to distinguish those with more stable chronic heart disease, and to "rule out" heart damage.
2) What is the difference between the old troponin test and hsTnI?	Similar to the old TnI test, hsTnI has high specificity for the cardiac form of troponin. Unlike the old test, hsTnI detects very low concentrations of TnI, even those found in most healthy people. Also, very small changes in TnI concentration ("delta" TnI) can be reliably detected by the hsTnI test.
3) What is the difference between the new hsTnI orders?	The new orders are designed for different clinical settings: TROPONIN I, HIGH SENSITIVITY W REFLEX TO REPEAT [84484L]" triggers an immediate measurement and one in two hours. It is generally the best choice for the initial evaluation of patients with chest pain. Note that a separate sample must be collected for the second measurement! Besides the two TnI measurements, a "delta" TnI will be reported with the second hsTnI result. TROPONIN I, HIGH SENSITIVITY [84484M] is a stand alone test suitable for tracking TnI trends in patients who have already been diagnosed. It may sometimes be appropriate in Urgent Care.
4) What is the "delta" TnI? What is its clinical significance?	The "delta" TnI is defined as the change between two successive hsTnI measurements. A large "delta" can signify the presence of acute cardiac injury. A small "delta" suggests either a healthy heart or stable chronic heart disease.
5) Is the 2nd Troponin the same as delta TnI?	No, the second troponin is just another TnI concentration measured at a different point in time (ideally between two and three hours later). The delta TnI is reported along with the second hsTnI result.
6) What hsTnI test will I order for Q4 measurement?	Order TROPONIN I, HIGH SENSITIVITY [84484M] with "Timing Critical" priority set to 4 hours, 8 hours, 12 hours, and so on.

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7) *What happens if a serum sample is drawn for hsTnI?*	**Lithium heparin is the preferred sample for hsTnI measurement. Serum produces slightly higher results.** **Lithium heparin plasma and serum samples should not be used interchangeably.**

Reference interval – 99th percentile url: Access 2

Sample Type	Population	Access hsTnI	AccuTnI+3 (A2)
Lithium heparin plasma	Overall N = 1089	17.5 pg/mL	20 pg/mL (0.02 ng/mL)
	Female N = 595	11.6 pg/mL	N/A
	Male N = 494	19.8 pg/mL	N/A
Serum	Overall N = 1088	18.2 pg/mL	20 pg/mL (0.02 ng/mL)
	Female N = 595	11.8 pg/mL	N/A
	Male N = 493	19.7 pg/mL	N/A