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| DATE: | 2021 November 1 |
| TO: | All North Sector Clinicians |
| FROM: | Molecular Pathology North |
| RE: | CALR/MPL/JAK2 Exon 12 Ordering Changes |

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Key Message

- Starting November 1, 2021, all orders for CALR, MPL, and JAK2 exon 12 testing will be limited to Hematology and Hematopathology ordering only. Testing on bone marrow aspirate specimens is strongly preferred, and we discourage this testing on peripheral blood.

Background

- Testing for myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) may include test orders for mutations in CALR, MPL, and/or JAK2 exon 12 mutations in a subset of patients that are negative for JAK2 V617F mutation with a high clinical suspicion for an MPN. However, in most cases, such testing should be performed on a bone marrow specimen to evaluate both the mutational status and histology of the patient. As such, there are very limited circumstances in which testing of peripheral blood for these mutations will change clinical management and prevent the patient from undergoing bone marrow biopsy, the performance of which should be referred to a Hematologist. For this reason, performance of CALR, MPL, and JAK2 exon 12 testing in North Sector Alberta will be transitioned to Hematologist/Hematopathologist ordering only starting November 1, 2021. Hematology physicians are strongly urged to order such testing on a bone marrow specimen.

How this will impact you

- If your patient has signs/symptoms of an MPN and is negative for JAK2 V617F and BCR/ABL1 mutations, please refer to Hematology for evaluation and possible bone marrow biopsy. All orders for CALR, MPL, and JAK2 exon 12 ordered by physicians other than Hematologists or Hematopathologists will be canceled beginning November 1, 2021.

Action Required

- Refer patients with suspicion of an MPN and negative JAK2 V617F testing to Hematology for further work up.

Effective **November 1, 2021**

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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