

DATE:	2022 March 21
TO:	All Healthcare Professionals in Central, Edmonton, and North Zone
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) North Sector, and DynaLIFE Medical Labs
RE:	Changes and Updates to Endocrine Tests

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective **March 29, 2022**, there will be various ordering or reporting changes for the following tests: Aldosterone; Aldosterone/renin ratio (ARR); Aldosterone, urine, 24 hour; Thyroglobulin panel (thyroglobulin and anti-thyroglobulin); and Anti-thyroid peroxidase (TPO).

Background

- These changes will help optimize test interpretation and improve ordering practices.
- They are also important for supporting laboratory standardization efforts across the province.

How this will impact you

Test	Change details	Performing site
Aldosterone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred blood collection container type will switch from serum separator tube (gold top) to EDTA plasma (lavender top). • This will improve reliability of high aldosterone concentrations, consolidate collection of aldosterone and renin into a single container, and prevent delays in ARR reporting. 	University of Alberta Hospital (UAH)
ARR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aldosterone >400 pmol/L will be removed as criteria for calculating and reporting the ARR. • This change will ensure that a subset of patients with aldosterone ≤400 pmol/L will not be missed for primary hyperaldosteronism screening. 	UAH
Aldosterone, urine, 24 hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reference interval for adults will append as a comment. • A comment will display for patients <18 years indicating that no reference interval is available. 	UAH
Thyroglobulin panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thyroglobulin and anti-thyroglobulin will be combined into a single panel. Neither test will be available as an individual order. • This change will allow all thyroglobulin results to be assessed for the potential of anti-thyroglobulin interference in the same report. 	UAH
TPO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring units will change from kIU/L to the SI units KIU/L. Numerical values are equivalent and no conversion is required. • The reference interval will change from <50 kIU/L to <35 KIU/L to better reflect current methodology. • The upper reportable limit will be 600 KIU/L. Results higher than 600 KIU/L will be reported as >600 KIU/L. 	UAH and DynaLIFE Medical Labs



Action Required

- Be aware of test updates and reporting changes as outlined in the above table.
- Laboratory Test Directory & Collection Information can be accessed at <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/lab/Page3217.aspx>

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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