

DATE:	2021 June 14
TO:	Central Zone: Physicians, Nurses, Directors, and Managers
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Changes to Ionized Calcium Reporting

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Key Message

- Effective **June 16, 2021**, ionized Calcium (iCa) performed in Red Deer Regional Hospital will be reported with the following three components:
 - **PH, VENOUS**
 - **CALCIUM, IONIZED**
 - **CALCIUM IONIZED, PH ADJUSTED**
- The new orderable Meditech test code for the panel of tests will be **CAIG**.
- Reference Range and critical values for both adjusted and non-adjusted iCa will remain unchanged:

Reference Range:	1.10 – 1.35 mmol/L
Critical Values:	<0.80 and >1.50 mmol/L

Why this is Important

- Adjusting the pH of iCa can address the potential changes in pH that occurs during transportation of the sample to the lab.
- pH-adjusted iCa should only be considered if the patient has a normal pH at the time of sample collection.
- If the patient has an acid-base disorder at the time of collection, non-adjusted instead of adjusted iCa should be considered for interpretation of the actual status of the analyte.

Action Required

- Be aware of the changes to the iCa panel.
- Use Meditech test code **CAIG** to order iCa.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Yury Butorin, PhD, Clinical Biochemist, Red Deer Regional Hospital, 403-406-5633, Yury.Butorin@albertaprecisionlabs.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Heidi Paulin, MD, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief for Red Deer Regional Hospital
- Hossein Sadrzadeh, PhD, Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector
- Leland Baskin, MD, Associate Medical Director, South Sector