

<b>DATE:</b>	2021 December 13
<b>TO:</b>	All Lethbridge Physicians and Healthcare Providers
<b>FROM:</b>	Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Changes to Venous Blood Gas Panel at Chinook Regional Hospital (Lethbridge)</b>

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### Key Message

- Effective **November 18, 2021**, the venous blood gas panel has been modified to include Sodium (Na) and Potassium (K).
- Results will appear in Meditech under the Blood Gas header in both the EMR and on the report.
- It is recommended to monitor patients using ether plasma or whole blood electrolytes, and not to use the results interchangeably.

### Why this is Important

- This will provide a faster turnaround time for those clinicians requiring these results for immediate patient intervention (ie. Insulin required for DKA patients).

### Action Required

- Look for venous blood gas electrolytes in the “Blood Gas” area of the electronic medical record.
- Venous blood gas Na/K will not trend in Netcare or Meditech EMR with our mainframe Na/K results.

### Effective

- November 18, 2021

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

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### This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

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