

DATE:	2022 April 18
TO:	All Zones
FROM:	Genetics and Genomics (G&G), Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Inherited cardiac disorder specific variant testing available in-house

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Key Message

- On August 9, 2021 the Molecular Genetics Laboratory (MGL) North began offering Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) panels for inherited cardiac disorders. Specific variant testing in members of the proband's family is now available for all likely pathogenic and pathogenic variants in genes on these panels. Segregation studies for variants of uncertain significance in these genes will be considered on a case by case basis in consultation with the Molecular Geneticists and referring physician.

Background

- Cardiac specific variant testing will now be available through MGL North.
- Specific variant testing for variants in genes that were previously identified in a referred out lab and had been managed through the Genetic Resource Centre (GRC) are now available through MGL North.

How this will impact you

- As of Monday April 18, 2022, Alberta healthcare providers no longer need to apply for funding through the GRC for specific cardiac variant testing. GRC requests may still be submitted for patients who received pre-test counselling for a send-out prior to April 18.
- Predictive testing for specific cardiac variants is currently restricted to Medical Genetics.
- Standard turnaround time is 6-8 weeks.
- Rush testing turnaround time for immediate medical management is minimum 2 weeks. Please include the reason for rush testing.

Action Required

- Providers on Connect Care can order testing using the "Cardiac Gene Panel, Specific Variant" order (LAB4148). A copy of the proband's report is required for testing to proceed. Please send to the laboratory (fax 780-407-1761; email APLGGMGLAccessioningNorth@albertahealthservices.ca) or reference the report in Connect Care Media tab if it is available as an external document.
- Providers not on Connect Care should order using the [Molecular Genetics Laboratory Cardiac Connective Tissue and Vascular NGS Requisition form \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-21778.pdf)
<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-21778.pdf>

Effective **April 18, 2022**

Questions/Concerns

- Molecular Genetics North Genetic Counsellors, 780-407-1015

Approved by

- Dr. Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetics & Genomics, APL
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim), APL