

<b>DATE:</b>	2021 November 29
<b>TO:</b>	All Zones
<b>FROM:</b>	Genetics & Genomics – Biochemical Genetics Laboratories (BGL), North and South
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Phenylalanine and Tyrosine Monitoring</b>

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## PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

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### Key Message

- Effective November 29<sup>th</sup> 2021, phenylalanine and tyrosine monitoring on dried blood spot cards will be performed by BGL North for the entire province
- BGL South will continue to perform phenylalanine and tyrosine monitoring on plasma for the entire province
- The method for plasma phenylalanine and tyrosine monitoring has changed from high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) to liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)

### Background

- Phenylalanine and tyrosine monitoring on dried blood spot cards was previously performed by both North and South BGL sites. This change is expected to improve overall turnaround times, and will allow for standardization of testing across the province where each BGL site will complete phenylalanine and tyrosine monitoring on one specimen type.

### How this will impact you

- The process for ordering this testing through Connect Care remains unchanged
- For clinicians and lab users who do not have access to Connect Care, please visit the APL Test Directory ([Phenylalanine and Tyrosine Monitoring, Dried Blood Spot](#) or [Phenylalanine and Tyrosine Monitoring, Plasma](#)) for information about requisitions, collection, and shipping requirements.

### Action Required

- Follow instructions as outlined in the APL Test Directory for [Phenylalanine and Tyrosine Monitoring, Dried Blood Spot](#) or [Phenylalanine and Tyrosine Monitoring, Plasma](#).
- For samples handled through laboratory sites, continue to transport samples as per established send out procedures using laboratory couriers systems.
- For home collected dried blood spot samples, if patient or patient's guardian is unable to drop the sample off at their local laboratory, they can mail the sample to:

University of Alberta Hospital  
Department of Laboratory Medicine  
Room 4B2.10  
Biochemical Genetics Lab  
8440-112 Street N.W.  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 2B7



**Effective**

- November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Questions/Concerns**

- G&G North Laboratory Genetic Counsellors (phone: 780-407-1015)
- G&G South Laboratory Genetic Counsellors (phone: 403-955-3097)

**Approved by**

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