

DATE:	2022 January 24
TO:	All Zones
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) – Molecular Genetics Laboratories (MGL) South
RE:	Spinocerebellar Ataxia General Screen

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective January 17, 2022, the Spinocerebellar Ataxia (SCA) General Screen will include testing for SCA types 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, and 17.
- Testing for specific types of SCA, including SCA17, can still be requested as “SCA Specific”. The test called “SCA17” will no longer appear in the APL Test Directory.

Background

- The SCA General Screen previously included testing for SCA types 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8. SCA17 testing was ordered as a separate test. The Genetics & Genomics South Laboratories will go live on Connect Care on January 17, 2022. In order to streamline SCA ordering and reporting, SCA17 will be included as part of the SCA General Screen.

How this will impact you

- When clinicians order the SCA General Screen, this will also include SCA17.
- For clinicians who have access to Connect Care, use the “Spinocerebellar Ataxia [LAB4127]” order
 - Select “SCA screen” to request testing for SCA types 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, and 17.
 - Select “SCA specific” to request testing for a specific SCA type.
- For clinicians who do not have access to Connect Care, visit the [Genetics & Genomics website](#) to access the MGL Requisition for Calgary.
 - Select “Spinocerebellar Ataxia General Screen” to request testing for SCA types 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, and 17.
 - Select “Spinocerebellar Ataxia Specific” to request testing for a specific SCA type.

Action Required

- None

Effective

- January 17, 2022

Questions/Concerns

- MGL 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