

DATE:	22 July 2024
TO:	Edmonton CF Clinic, Calgary CF Clinic, Edmonton Medical Genetics Clinic, Calgary Medical Genetics Clinic, Edmonton Maternal Fetal Medicine Clinic, Calgary Prenatal Genetic Clinic
FROM:	Alberta Newborn Screening Laboratory, Genetics and Genomics, APL
RE:	Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Molecular Newborn Screen Results

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Cystic Fibrosis (CF) molecular genetic results performed as part of the newborn screening pathway will no longer be visible in the patient's EPIC chart. A copy of these results will no longer be faxed to the Cystic Fibrosis Clinics with the preliminary CF newborn screen result. Confirmation testing on a diagnostic sample (blood) is required to determine a newborn's CF genotype.

Background

- Currently CF molecular results arising from newborn screening are provided directly to the Cystic Fibrosis Clinic. These results are for screening purposes only and require confirmation testing on a diagnostic sample. Newborn screening integration into EPIC will occur July 28, 2024, streamlining the newborn screening reporting process. Following the integration, results from molecular testing done within the newborn screening pathway will not be visible in EPIC and will no longer be available to be sent to the CF Clinics.

How this will impact you

- With the integration of newborn screening into EPIC, you will be notified of positive newborn screens by a preliminary report specifying the type of result (probable screen for infants with 2 *CFTR* variants/inconclusive for infants with 1 *CFTR* variant/markedly elevated IRT). Confirmation testing on a diagnostic sample is required to determine a newborn's CF genotype.

Action Required

- Send a diagnostic sample for confirmation testing for each newborn with a probable or inconclusive newborn screen result for CF. Order "cystic fibrosis and/or *CFTR*-related disorders" (LAB1783). A blood sample can be submitted with results expected in 1-2 weeks.

Effective July 29, 2024

Questions/Concerns

- G&G North (Edmonton) MGL Genetic Counsellors at 780-407-1015

Approved by

- Dr. Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetics and Genomics, APL
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim), APL
- Dr. Ross Ridsdale, Lab Head, Alberta Newborn Screening Lab, Genetics and Genomics, APL

Effective September 1, 2023, APL has become the sole provider of all public lab services in Alberta. As a result, community lab services formally provided by DynaLIFE Medical Labs will become the responsibility of Alberta Precision Labs (APL). This change impacts all zones.