

DATE:	25 September 2024
TO:	Physicians, Nurses, and Managers - Calgary zone
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories
RE:	New HemosIL D-Dimer Test Method

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective October 1, 2024, at 0900 hours D-Dimer testing will be transitioning from the CS Stratus and the Mini Vidas to the ACL Elite instrument using the HemosIL D-Dimer assay reagent at the following sites:
- CS Stratus sites:
 - Didsbury District Health Services
 - Claresholm General Hospital
 - Oilfields General Hospital
 - Vulcan General Hospital

This change will involve a different collection container as well as new units of measure, a new reference interval, and new abnormal limit.

	Collection Container	Units	Reference Interval	Abnormal
Discontinued CS Stratus	Dk Green Lithium Heparin	mg/L FEU	<0.50 mg/L FEU	>=0.50
New Hemosil D-Dimer	Light Blue Sodium Citrate	mg/L DDU	<0.23 mg/L DDU	>=0.23

- Mini Vidas sites:
 - Okotoks
 - Banff

This change will involve new units of measure, a new reference interval, and new abnormal limit.

	Collection Container	Units	Reference Interval	Abnormal
Discontinued Mini Vidas	Light Blue Sodium Citrate	mg/L FEU	<0.50 mg/L FEU	>=0.50
New Hemosil D-Dimer	Light Blue Sodium Citrate	mg/L DDU	<0.23 mg/L DDU	>=0.23

How this will impact you

- The collection container for the ACL Elite D-dimer is a 2.7 ml or 1.8 ml Light Blue Citrate tube filled to at least the frosted line on the tube. Epic specimen labels and the APL Test directory page will be updated to reflect the change in tube type for the applicable sites.



- Note: The HemosIL D-Dimer assay (from IL Diagnostics/Werfen) is different from the more common HemosIL D-Dimer HS 500 assay (also from IL Diagnostics/Werfen) in use at higher volume labs in Alberta. See Appendix for a comparison of how these tests perform relative to each other.
- A comment is appended to all D-Dimer results indicating which method was used for testing.

Action Required

- Be aware of changes in assay, container type, and reporting.
- Collect samples for D-dimer testing in a Light Blue Sodium Citrate tube.

Questions/Concerns

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- Karen McCullough, Hematology Discipline Lead | Karen.McCullough@aplabs.ca

Approved by

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- Karen McCullough, Hematology Discipline Lead | Karen.McCullough@aplabs.ca

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.



Appendix

