

<b>DATE:</b>	1 October 2024
<b>TO:</b>	Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital Healthcare Providers
<b>FROM:</b>	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Referral of Albumin, Lactate Dehydrogenase, and Phosphate to Edmonton Base Lab</b>

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### Key Message

- Effective 8 October 2024, albumin, lactated dehydrogenase, and phosphate testing currently performed at the Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital (FSH) will be referred out to Edmonton Base Laboratory.

### Background

- A provincial Rural Hospital Test Menu Standardization working group was formed to review test menus provincially and identify test menu gaps and identify efficiencies.
- Albumin, lactate dehydrogenase, and phosphate are low volume tests at FSH, and not performed onsite at other rural and suburban acute care sites in the Edmonton Zone with similar services and patient populations.

### How this will impact you

- There will be no changes to orders in Connect Care.
- Turnaround time will be increased (anticipated <24 hours)
- There are differences in the method for albumin between FSH and Edmonton Base Lab
  - Reference intervals will change (see below)

	Method	Reference Interval	
		0 to <1 year	≥ 1 year
Current (FSH)	Albumin – bromocresol green	30-50 g/L	35-50 g/L
New (Edmonton Base Lab)	Albumin – bromocresol purple	22-45 g/L	30-45 g/L

- No change to reference intervals for phosphate or lactate dehydrogenase.

### Action Required

- Be aware of changes to turnaround time for albumin, lactate dehydrogenase, and phosphate and reference interval change for albumin when tests collected at FSH.

**Effective 8 October 2024**



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### **Questions/Concerns**

- Dr. Miranda Brun, Clinical Biochemist (780)722-4123, [Miranda.Brun2@aplabs.ca](mailto:Miranda.Brun2@aplabs.ca)

### **Approved by**

- Dr. Kareena Schnabl, Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, North Sector APL
- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, North Sector, 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.*