

DATE:	12 November 2024
TO:	Chinook Regional Hospital: All Healthcare Providers and Laboratory Staff
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Testing Changes at Chinook Regional Hospital for Complement 3, Complement 4, Immunoglobulin A, Immunoglobulin G, Immunoglobulin M and Rheumatoid Factor

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Key Message

- Effective November 19, 2024, the following tests currently performed at Chinook Regional Hospital (CRH) will be referred for testing to the Diagnostic and Scientific Centre (DSC) in Calgary: Complement C3 (C3), Complement 4 (C4), Immunoglobulin A (IgA), Immunoglobulin G (IgG), Immunoglobulin M (IgM) and Rheumatoid Factor (RF)

Background

- APL has been working towards Regional Test Menu standardization, when appropriate, to identify test menu gaps and increase efficiency within the labs.
 - C3, C4, IgA, IgG, IgM and RF testing were identified at CRH as low volume tests that had a clinically required turnaround time that could be adequately met by referring testing to the DSC.

How this will impact you

- If a C3, C4, IgA, IgG, IgM or RF is ordered at CRH, routing to the DSC may lead to an increase in result turnaround time.
- Be aware that there is no change to ordering procedures or in the methodology used for these tests.

Action Required

- Continue to order testing as usual; the Connect Care routing changes will be made to reflect the new testing site.

Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Heather Paul, Clinical Biochemist, CRH | heather.paul@aplabs.ca
- Dr. Krishna Narra, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief, CRH | krishna.narra@aplabs.ca
- Dr. Jessica Gifford, Medical Lead, Clinical Biochemistry, DSC | jessica.gifford@aplabs.ca

Approved by

- Dr. Paul Klonowski, Associate Medical Director, Hub Lab, South Sector, APL
- Dr. Allison Venner, Clinical Biochemistry Section Chief, South Sector, APL
- Dr. Krishna Narra, Associate Medical Director, Rural, South 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.