

DATE:	9 December 2024
TO:	Edmonton, North, and Central Zones
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Labs (APL)
RE:	Changes to Urine Protein Electrophoresis Reporting at Edmonton Base Lab

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Key Message

- For random urine protein electrophoresis (Random UPE), Edmonton Base Lab will report only on the presence or absence of a monoclonal protein; no assessment will be made of the proteinuria pattern.
- For 24-hour urine protein electrophoresis (24-hr UPE), Edmonton Base Lab will report on the presence or absence of a monoclonal protein and provide a consolidated assessment of the renal proteinuria pattern, if observed.

Background

- These changes support provincial standardization efforts on UPE reporting, focused on the main purpose of the tests to assess for the presence of a monoclonal protein in urine.
- Reminder on appropriate utilization:
 - Recent recommendations from Choosing Wisely Canada indicate that Random UPE should not be used to screen for a monoclonal gammopathy ([Clinical Biochemistry - Choosing Wisely Canada](#)) as there is very limited evidence supporting its sensitivity.
 - 24-hr UPE may be useful in certain settings, such as suspected amyloidosis.

How this will impact you

- Random UPE reports from Edmonton Base Lab will focus only on the presence or absence of a monoclonal protein.
- 24-hr UPE reports from Edmonton Base Lab will include an assessment of (1) the presence or absence of a monoclonal protein and (2) the proteinuria pattern (albumin only, predominately glomerular or mixed proteinuria, or predominately tubular or mixed proteinuria).

Action Required

- Order SPE as the initial screening test for suspected monoclonal gammopathy. Random UPE is not recommended and should not be used for screening purposes.
- If ordered, renal proteinuria patterns will only be assessed on 24-hr UPE.

Effective **December 9, 2024**

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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