

DATE:	1 May 2025
TO:	Edmonton, North, and Central Zones – Physicians, Nurses and Healthcare Providers, Laboratory Staff
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Labs (APL)
RE:	Temporary Referral of Complement C3 (C3) Testing to DSC Chemistry

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Key Message

- **Effective May 05, 2025**, Edmonton Base Lab will temporarily refer Complement C3 testing to the Diagnostic and Scientific Center (DSC) Laboratory in Calgary. Please note the change in the reference interval.

Background

- Due to global supply chain shortage identified by the vendor, reagents used for C3 measurement at Edmonton Base Lab on the Siemens Atellica are currently unavailable.
- The DSC Chemistry assay for C3 is performed by immunoturbidimetry on the Roche Cobas analyzer and has a different reference interval.
- This change does **not** impact C3 testing performed at the University of Alberta Hospital.

How this will impact you

- The reference interval for C3 will change (see table below). Reports in Connect Care and Netcare will reflect the correct reference interval.
- Testing at DSC is performed daily.
- Follow up communication will be issued once the reagent supply is re-established.

	Edmonton Base Lab	DSC Calgary
Complement C3 reference interval	0.80 – 2.10 g/L	0.60 – 1.60 g/L

Action Required

- Be aware of the change in the reference interval for C3 measurement.
- Rebaselining is recommended for C3 in patients that require serial measurements due to lack of result interchangeability and use of a different reference interval.

Questions/Concerns

- Edmonton Baselab Clinical Chemist Team, 825-394-1819. apl.clinicalchemists@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
- DSC Chemistry: Dr. Jessica Gifford, Clinical Biochemist, 403-770-3779, jessica.gifford@albertaprecisionlabs.ca.

Approved by

- Dr. Mathew Estey, Medical Lead Clinical Biochemistry, Hub Lab, North Sector
- Dr. Jessica Gifford, Clinical Chemistry Lead, Community Lab Services, APL
- Dr. Paul Klonowski, Associate Medical Director, Hub Lab South, APL
- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, North Sector