

DATE:	12 May 2025
TO:	All Care Providers in Alberta Who Order Laboratory Testing/All Physicians and Clinicians
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories Public Health Laboratory (APL ProvLab)
RE:	Serology ordering for <i>Schistosoma spp</i> and <i>Strongyloides stercoralis</i>

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective May 19, 2025, **all** *Schistosoma* or *Strongyloides* serology **must** be ordered:
 - in Connect Care OR by using the [APL Serology and Molecular Testing Requisition](#) (for sites/offices that do not use Connect Care);
 - with relevant travel history **and** rationale for testing provided for each order.
- Failure to provide required information may lead to delays or cancellation of testing.
- In case of cancellation, the specimen will be held for a limited period of time to allow clinicians to consult the APL ProvLab Microbiologist-on-call for possible re-instating of testing, using the same specimen. **A repeat phlebotomy will not necessarily be required.**

Background

- Travel history and relevant clinical details are essential for ensuring appropriateness of testing and clinical validity and interpretation of results. APL ProvLab requires this basic information to evaluate *Schistosoma* or *Strongyloides* serology requests and optimise testing. Provision of required details will speed up the process and ultimately improve patient care.
- To streamline this process, APL ProvLab has updated the [APL Serology and Molecular Testing Requisition](#) with selections for both of these serologies. This requisition also provides appropriate space to indicate travel history and rationale for testing.

Actions required

- Starting May 19, 2025, order *Schistosoma* and/or *Strongyloides* serology through Connect Care or using the downloadable [APL Serology and Molecular Testing Requisition](#).
- Ensure travel history and rationale for testing is provided for each request, using the space provided (as outlined above).
- In case of test request cancellation, if testing still felt clinically indicated, consult the APL ProvLab Microbiologist-on-Call as soon as possible at 780-407-8822 (Edmonton APL ProvLab) or 403-944-1110 (Calgary APL ProvLab).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



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Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

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- Dr. Jamil Kanji, Medical Microbiologist, APL ProvLab; (jamil.kanji@ahs.ca)

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Graham Tipples, Medical and Scientific Director, ProvLab, Alberta Precision Laboratories