

DATE:	9 June 2025
TO:	South Zone – All Physicians, Nurses and Managers
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Discontinuation of Neonatal Bilirubin and Conjugated Bilirubin Testing at Crowsnest Pass and Fort Macleod Laboratories

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Key Message

- Effective June 17, 2025, Neonatal Bilirubin and Conjugated Bilirubin testing performed at the Crowsnest Pass and Fort Macleod Laboratories will be discontinued. Total Bilirubin testing remains available on-site.
 - All stat and routine orders for Neonatal Bilirubin (babies ≤ 30 days) and Conjugated Bilirubin (babies < 5 months), as well as stat orders for Conjugated Bilirubin (≥ 5 months), will be referred to Chinook Regional Hospital Laboratory.
 - All routine orders for Conjugated Bilirubin will be referred to the Diagnostic and Scientific Centre (DSC) laboratory in Calgary.

Background

- APL has been working towards Rural Test Menu standardization to increase efficiency of rural labs. This means some tests may be removed while others may be added depending on testing numbers and distance to performing sites. Decisions about test addition/deletion are made following consultations with the local groups of physicians.

How this will impact you

- No changes to ordering in Connect Care.
- Crowsnest Pass and Fort MacLeod will no longer be reporting Neonatal Bilirubin and Conjugated Bilirubin on-site.
- The turnaround time for results availability is expected to be between 4-48 hours depending on the time of collection of the sample during the day/week.
- There are no changes to the reference intervals or critical values.

Action Required

- Be aware of the testing changes at these two sites.

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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