

DATE:	15 September 2025
TO:	All Ordering Providers
FROM:	Hematopathology Discipline Council
RE:	Platelet Estimate Ranges that are Reported When Clumped Platelets are Present

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective September 16, 2025, the reportable ranges for platelet estimates will be updated for when the automated platelet count cannot be reported due to platelet clumping.

Background

- Based on clinician feedback, the Hematopathology Discipline Council has determined that the reportable platelet estimate ranges should be updated to better align with current Canadian guidelines, particularly for patients receiving Eltrombopag and for the planning of obstetric neuraxial anesthesia.

How this will impact you

- Updated platelet estimate ranges for when the automated platelet count cannot be reported due to platelet clumping: Platelet estimate ranges: <20, 20-30, 31-50, 51-70, 71-100. Estimate ranges above 100 remain unchanged.
- NOTE: Please be aware that determining accurate platelet estimates when clumped platelets are present is very challenging, particularly with lower counts. The platelet estimate result should be interpreted with caution.**

Action Required None

Effective **September 16, 2025**

Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Artur Szkotak, Section Chief for Hematopathology (North), Alberta Precision Laboratories
Artur.Szkotak@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
- Karen McCullough, Hematology Discipline Lead, Alberta Precision Laboratories
Karen.McCullough@albertaprecisionlabs.ca

Approved by

- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, North Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories
Michael.Mengel@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
- Dr. Artur Szkotak, Section Chief for Hematopathology, North Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories
Artur.Szkotak@albertaprecisionlabs.ca