

DATE:	14 October 2025
TO:	All Inpatient Prescribers
FROM:	Alberta Precision Labs
RE:	Implementation of Daily Lab Order Restrictions in Connect Care

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective October 21, 2025, Connect Care will implement restrictions on use of **daily** lab orders for inpatients to reduce unnecessary testing and improve patient care. The default number of occurrences for daily lab orders will be set to 3 days, with a maximum of 7 days.
- Inpatient orders for frequencies other than daily and outpatient orders will not be affected at this time.
- All inpatient lab orders should be reviewed at least weekly for ongoing appropriateness.

Background

- A review of lab ordering tools revealed unlimited use of daily lab orders. Literature and local studies support reducing routine daily lab testing without compromising patient safety. Previous decisions by Connect Care governance committees have endorsed these changes, but they were not implemented until now.

How this will impact you

- For lab orders with a frequency of daily (including daily morning, daily afternoon, daily evening, daily timed, first occurrence then every 24hrs), the default will be 3 occurrences and can be adjusted to a maximum of 7.
- An order validation warning will identify which orders are not able to be signed without changes.
- All standardized system order sets will be updated to reflect these changes
- Orders for inpatients should be reviewed at least weekly.
- Daily orders can be modified/reordered at any time for up to 7 days. The “edit multiple” tool can be used to efficiently change the frequency and number of occurrences for multiple orders at once.
- A new ‘Expiring Lab Orders’ column is available to add to the ‘Physician Patient List’ to visually flag orders expiring within 48 hours.
- Expiring Lab Orders also appears as a section at the top of the Orders screen

Action Required

- Review and adjust personalized orders to align with the new limits
(Instructions are available in the ‘Physician Connect Care Personalization’ guide)
- Live class on Order Personalization is available via the CMIO office
<https://outlook.office.com/book/Bookings-CMIOThriveTraining@albertahealthservices.onmicrosoft.com/?ismsaljsauthenabled=true>



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- Be aware of the new validation alert when placing daily lab orders.
- Monitor the new Expiring Orders column for timely review of ongoing lab orders
<https://support.connect-care.ca/2025/07/31.html>

Effective October 21, 2025

Questions/Concerns

- For questions or support, please contact your Provincial Laboratory Digital Health Medical Informatics Team:
 - Dr. David Beyer (David.Beyer@albertaprecisionlabs.ca)
 - Dr. Kristen Brown (Kristen.Brown4@albertahealthservices.ca)
 - Dr. Susan Nahirniak (Susan.Nahirniak@albertaprecisionlabs.ca)

Approved by

- Dr. Susan Nahirniak, Associate CMLO - Connect Care & Related Projects, Alberta Precision Labs

References

1. Choosing Wisely Canada, Daily Labs. <https://choosingwiselycanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Daily-Labs-.pdf>