

DATE:	3 July 2026
TO:	South Zone Hematologists/Oncologists
FROM:	Molecular Pathology, Alberta Precision Laboratories
RE:	FLT3 Rapid Testing Delays

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Key Message

- The Molecular Hematology South Sector laboratory is experiencing a decrease in the sensitivity of our current rapid FLT3 due to reasons not yet determined
- This may increase the probability of false negative/false positive results in our rapid assay
- Testing will be consolidated to Molecular Pathology North Zone temporarily until troubleshooting can be completed. This will increase the turn-around time of said test by approximately 1-2 days.

Background

- Molecular Hematology South Sector laboratory has been experiencing decreased amplification efficiency of our current FLT3 rapid test. Troubleshooting has been unsuccessful to date and assay QA/QC is still ongoing
- FLT3 rapid testing will be consolidated to the North Zone lab (Edmonton) until this issue can be resolved. Molecular hematology will still attempt to perform testing as close to the established 3-5 day turn around time (TAT), but specimen transport time is expected to increase said TAT by an estimated 1-2 days.
- NGS testing (which covers all FLT3 variants) will not be affected and, wherever possible, Molecular Hematology South will attempt to prioritize NGS signout for AML cases to compensate.

How this will impact you

- All FLT3 rapid testing will be sent to Edmonton for testing. Reporting of the results will be unchanged.
- Whenever possible, if NGS results can be completed prior to the completion of rapid FLT3 testing, said results will be reported and the rapid testing will be cancelled.

Action Required

- **Hematology:** Be aware of the potential delay in FLT3 rapid test reporting. In addition, be aware that if NGS testing (which includes FLT3) is reported for your patient PRIOR to FLT3 rapid testing completion, the latter will be reflexively cancelled.

Effective **July 2, 2026**

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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- Christine Frantz, Operations Director, Molecular Pathology Program
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer, Alberta Precision Laboratories