

DATE:	6 July 2026
TO:	All Physician and Nurse Ordering Prescribers (Inpatient and Ambulatory)
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry and External Send Outs, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Implementation of Order Guidance for Paraneoplastic Neurological Syndrome Testing

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Key Message

- Effective **July 7, 2026**, changes are being implemented to optimize serum and cerebrospinal fluid Paraneoplastic Neurological Syndrome ordering workflow within Connect Care.

Background

- Paraneoplastic neurological syndrome external send out tests are expensive and frequently ordered outside of defined high- and medium- risk clinical presentations (phenotypes).
- Consequently, Alberta population data reveals that current state ordering practice is of low diagnostic yield with many false positive results.
- Implementing order guidance within Connect Care will reduce incidence of unnecessary procedures including invasive lumbar puncture and malignancy screens associated with radiation exposure.
- This project supports improved clinical and operational efficiency by reducing overordering burden on staff and healthcare costs.
- The provincially standardized ordering workflow will ensure accurate test selection and inform future quality improvement strategies.

How this will impact you

- The following optimization changes will be made to the Paraneoplastic Neurological Syndrome order:
 - Addition of process instructions
 - New mandatory questions
 - Order validation (hard stops)
 - Ordering guidance updates based on selections in order composer

Action Required

- Communicate updates to Paraneoplastic Syndrome order content and workflow to teams.
- Update preference lists and re-personalize ordering tools to align with the new build.

Additional Information

- CMIO blog: [Connect Care Support Forum: Updates to Paraneoplastic Syndrome Plus Order](#)

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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