

DATE:	13 October 2026
TO:	All Health Care Providers
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories
RE:	HCV NAT (Viral Load Testing) Transition from Abbott m2000 to Roche cobas® 6800 System

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Key Message

- Effectively October 13, 2026, the current HCV viral load assay (VL) performed on the Abbott m2000 will move to the Roche cobas® 6800 system.
- The testing site for HCV VL will remain the same: Public Health Laboratory, Edmonton.
- The ordering criteria, sample collection and reporting will not be changed.

Background

- HCV viral load testing was performed on the Abbott m2000 platform at the Public Health Laboratory, Edmonton (PLNA).
- Validation of HCV VL on Roche cobas® 6800 system has been completed. The results are consistent with the two different assays on all acceptable samples (serum and plasma from EDTA and PPT).

Action Required

- No change to the practice of ordering HCV VL test and sample collection.

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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