

<b>DATE:</b>	20 February 2024
<b>TO:</b>	North Zone: Healthcare Professionals and Providers
<b>FROM:</b>	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Change in Instrument for Beta-Hydroxybutyrate (BOH) Test in Northwest Health Centre Laboratory (High Level)</b>

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### Key Message

- On February 20, 2024, a new instrument will be used for Beta-hydroxybutyrate (BOH) at Northwest Health Centre Laboratory (High Level), due to vendor discontinuation of current BOH testing reagents/supplies.

### Background

- Beta-hydroxybutyrate (BOH) [LAB44] test will switch to a new instrument (Nova StatStrip) in laboratories across Alberta over the next few months.
- BOH is a quantitative ketone test used to evaluate and manage patients with hyperglycemia.
- Change is due to discontinuation of reagents/supplies by the current vendor.

### How this will impact you

- Nova Statstrip may produce different results from previous instrument and should not be trended together. New baseline may be needed.
- Reference intervals will remain the same (<0.4 mmol/L).
- Reporting limits will be 0.1 – 7.0 mmol/L.
- Only Lithium Heparin Plasma (MINT PST) tubes will be accepted for this testing.

### Action Required

- Be aware of the reporting updates.
- Refer to APL [Test Directory](#). There will be an interim timeframe where current and new testing instrument is used across testing sites, and each have specific sample collection instructions.
  - Collect specimen in Lithium Heparin tube (MINT PST) for testing on the Nova StatStrip.

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Dr. Kaila Crawford, Consulting Pathologist, APL; [kalia.crawford@aplabs.ca](mailto:kalia.crawford@aplabs.ca)
- Dr. Albert Tsui, Clinical Biochemist, APL; [albert.tsui@aplabs.ca](mailto:albert.tsui@aplabs.ca)

### This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Kareena Schnabl, Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, APL
- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, North Sector, APL

*Effective September 1, 2023, APL has become the sole provider of all public lab services in Alberta. As a result, community lab services formally provided by DynaLIFE Medical Labs will become the responsibility of Alberta Precision Labs (APL). This change impacts all zones.*