

<b>DATE:</b>	4 March 2024
<b>TO:</b>	All Zones: All 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</b>

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### Key Message

- Starting March 6, 2024, a new instrument will begin to be used for Beta-hydroxybutyrate (BOH) at sites with existing BOH testing, due to vendor discontinuation of current BOH testing reagents/supplies.
- This will be rolled out in a two phased approach (See Appendix for sites).

### 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 (Abbott Precision Xtra).

### How this will impact you

- Compared to current instrument, Nova StatStrip® may produce higher results at low concentrations (+0.1 mmol/L for BOH <1.0 mmol/L) and lower results at higher concentrations (-20% bias for BOH >1.0 mmol/L).
- There is no change in reference interval (<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 StaStrip®.
- Refer to Appendix below for go live date for your site.

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

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**This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by**

- Dr. Kareena Schnabl, Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, APL
- Dr. Allison Venner, Associate Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, APL
- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, North Sector, APL
- Dr. Dylan Pillai, Medical Director, South Sector, APL

**Appendix:** Summary of sites and go-live date with Nova StatStrip® BOH instruments

Phase 1:

Zone	Hospital site	Go live date
North	Northwest HC (High Level)	February 20, 2024
Edmonton	East Edmonton HC	March 6, 2024
	Grey Nuns Hospital	
	Fort Saskatchewan Hospital	
	Leduc Hospital	
	Misericordia Hospital	
	Northeast HC	
	Royal Alexandra Hospital	
	Strathcona Hospital	
	Sturgeon Hospital	
	University of Alberta Hospital	
Central	Westview HC	March 6, 2024
	St. Mary's Hospital (Camrose)	
	St. Joseph's General Hospital (Vegreville)	
South	Wainwright HC	March 6, 2024
	Cardston Hospital	
	Chinook Regional Hospital	
	Medicine Hat Regional Hospital	

Note: HC denotes Health Centre



Phase 2:

Zone	Hospital Site	Go live date
North	Bonnyville HC	To be determined (Anticipated: End of April)
	Hinton HC	
	Grande Prairie Regional Hospital	
	Northern Lights Regional HC (Fort McMurray)	
	Westlock HC	
Central	Drayton Valley Hospital	
	Lacombe Hospital	
	Ponoka Hospital	
	Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre	
	Rocky Mountain House HC	
	Stettler Hospital	
	Wetaskiwin Hospital	
Calgary	Alberta Children's Hospital	
	Foothills Medical Centre	
	Peter Lougheed Centre	
	Rockyview General Hospital	
	South Health Campus	

Note: HC denotes Health Centre

*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.*