



Date: January 25, 2021
To: North Zone: All Physicians, Nursing Managers, Nursing Educators, Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists
From: APL Laboratory Services, Dr. Brent Mendez, Regional Pathologist
Re: Change of Coagulation Blood Collection Tubes for Testing Performed by NZ Laboratories

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- Blood collected for coagulation testing performed at the following sites should be collected in plastic 3.2% Sodium Citrate tubes. This includes: Prothrombin Testing (PT/INR) and Activated PTT (APTT) performed at all sites as well as the following tests performed in Grande Prairie: D-Dimer (DD), Fibrinogen (FIB), Thrombin Time (TT) and Low Molecular Heparin (Anti Xa) testing.

Athabasca	Mayerthorpe	Grande Cache
Barrhead	St. Paul	High Praire
Bonnyville	Slave Lake	Manning
Cold Lake	Smoky Lake	McLennan
Edson	Wabasca	Peace River
Elk Point	Westlock	Grande Prairie
Hinton	Whitecourt	Spirit River
Jasper	Beaverlodge	Valleyview
Lac La Biche	Fairview	

Background:

- Previously it was recommended to collect testing in glass 3.2% Sodium Citrate tube which will no longer be manufactured.

How this will impact you:

- Use Plastic 3.2% Sodium Citrate for all coagulation testing performed at the above labs.

Action Required:

- Switch from glass to plastic as supplies come available.

Effective:

- January 18, 2021

Questions/Concerns:

- Dr. Brent Mendez, Regional Pathologist at 780-538-7417 or by email at: Brent.Mendez@albertaprecisionlabs.ca

Approved by:

- Dr. Michael Mengel, North Sector Medical Director, APL Chair Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, University of Alberta