



Date: January 25, 2021
To: North Sector Area 1, 2 and 3 Physicians, Laboratory Directors, Managers and Supervisors.
From: North Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
Re: Changes to critical values for Acetaminophen, Ethanol and Salicylate

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Key Message:

- Effective **01 February 2021** the following changes will be made to the critical values and reporting comments to Acetaminophen, Ethanol and Salicylate
- Critical values are applicable to all age groups

Analyte		Current			<u>NEW critical and comments</u>
		Area 1, excluding Peace River - (Former Peace Region)	Peace River	Areas 2 & 3 - (Former Aspen region)	
Salicylate	Critical (mmol/L)	>2.18	>2.17	>2.50	>2.20
	Comment		A result of greater than 2.17 mmol/L is considered toxic	Therapeutic Range: 1.10 – 2.20	No comment
Acetaminophen	Critical (µmol/L)	>300	>330	>250	>250
	Comment			Consult Alberta Poison Centre @ 1-800-332-1414 if appropriate.	Consult Poison and Drug Information Service(PADIS) at 1-800-332-1414 if applicable
Ethanol	Critical (mmol/L)	>65	>66	≤17 yr: >3 ≥18 yr: >66	>65
	Comment	The method currently used for ETOH testing is not specific for ETOH and may cross react with other alcohols. Please interpret results accordingly		The method currently used for ETOH testing is not specific for ETOH and may cross react with other alcohols. Please interpret results accordingly	No change

Why this is important:

- To standardize laboratory reporting processes within APL North Sector Area 1, 2 and 3 in preparation for Connect Care implementation.



Action Required:

- Be aware of the changes to the critical values.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. Mireille Kattar, Consulting Pathologist, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL),
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- Dr. Brent Mendez, Regional Lab Medicine Site Chief QEII Hospital at 780-538-7417,
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- Dr. Kaila Crawford, Dr. Crawford, General Pathology Section Chief, North Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories, Kaila.Crawford@albertaprecisionlabs.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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