

DATE:	1 May 2023
TO:	All Zones
FROM:	Genetics & Genomics, Alberta Precision Labs
RE:	Changes to Ordering and Routing of Cytogenetic Testing for Multiple Myeloma (Plasma Cell Neoplasm)

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Key Message

- All Cytogenetic samples for possible Multiple Myeloma (Plasma Cell Neoplasm - PCN) from the Edmonton and North zones have been routed to the Cancer Cytogenetics Laboratory at the Diagnostic & Scientific Centre (DSC) in Calgary through a manual process to avoid delayed TATs. . As of May 6th, changes in Epic will allow for streamlined routing of these samples to go directly to the DSC based on order questions.

Background

- As per the May 31, 2021 Lab Bulletin, 'Plasma Cell Neoplasm by NGS' at the DSC Cancer Cytogenetics laboratory replaced provincial Multiple Myeloma FISH testing as of June 7, 2021 . Due to limitations in Epic, North/Edmonton zone samples were routing directly to the Edmonton Cytogenetics lab instead of to the Calgary DSC Cancer Cytogenetics lab. Laboratories involved in routing bone marrow samples implemented a manual process where they added a DSC label to samples sent for this testing.
- The Cancer Cytogenetics South lab at the DSC is going live with Connect Care Launch 6 on May 6, 2023. Due to limitations in Epic, streamlined routing of these samples to the DSC couldn't be implemented until the current Connect Care Launch. Sample requirements for this testing remain the same.

How this will impact you

- When ordering Cytogenetic Analysis and selecting PCN as the indication, a label with DS sample number will now be created which will ensure the sample routes directly to the Cancer Cytogenetics South lab at the DSC. A follow-up question will appear after PCN has been selected, which will ask if a karyotype is also required: 'Yes' should only be checked if the possibility of another hematologic disorder is present.

Action Required

- For Health Care Providers ordering Cytogenetic Analysis on possible Multiple Myeloma/PCN samples:
 - Select PCN as the indication; then answer the follow up question on whether a karyotype is required dependent on the clinical presentation.
- For laboratory staff routing Myeloma samples:
 - Ensure that possible Multiple Myeloma samples ordered with a PCN indication have a sample number starting with DS and can be placed on a packing list to go directly to the Diagnostic & Scientific Centre (DSC) in Calgary. Manual labeling of samples to route them to the DSC can be discontinued.



Effective

- May 6, 2023

Questions/Concerns

- Technical, medical or routing questions can be sent through Connect Care secure message, by email to APL GG South Cancer Cyto Leadership APLGGCancerCytogeneticsSouth@albertahealthservices.ca, by calling 403-770-3691, or by Connect Care In Basket messaging after May 6, 2023.

Approved by

- Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetics & Genomics, Alberta Precision Laboratories
- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, North Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories