

DATE:	2022 May 16
TO:	Zone Physicians, Nursing staff, Laboratory Directors, Managers, Supervisors
FROM:	Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre (RDRHC) Laboratory
RE:	Changes to Red Deer Regional Hospital Laboratory Post Vasectomy and Fertility Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Staffing shortages at the Red Deer Regional Hospital Laboratory have resulted in challenges in meeting the demand for routine testing volumes.
- Effective immediately post vasectomy and fertility testing is suspended at the Red Deer Regional Hospital Laboratory.
- Post vasectomy and Fertility testing can be performed at APL Andrology Laboratory, located in Edmonton at the Community Services Center. The appointment booking number is listed below.
- Post vasectomy testing can also be booked at one of the Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) listed below. Please check website for locations and numbers.
- As staffing at the Red Deer Regional Hospital stabilizes we are committed to repatriating the service. A bulletin will be issued when staffing levels are at a level when we can safely and effectively resume testing.

Test	Location	Requirement
Fertility Testing & Post Vasectomy	Andrology Laboratory, Edmonton Community Services Center, 780-407-7484	Please book an appointment prior to sample collection and specify if the appointment is for fertility assessment or retrograde analysis testing.
Test	Service Locations in Central Zone	Requirement
Post Vasectomy	Drayton Valley, Drumheller, Hanna, Innisfail, Lacombe, Olds, Ponoka, Provost, Rimbey, Rocky Mountain House, Stettler, Sundre, Sylvan Lake, Three Hills, Vegreville, Vermilion, Viking, Wainwright, Wetaskiwin	Patient must book an appointment prior to sample collection
Please refer to link below for address and phone numbers: www.albertahealthservices.ca/findhealth/Service		



Background

- RDRHC Laboratory is unable to maintain consistent staffing due to vacancies and training demands.

Why this is important

- Appointment times vary between testing sites. Please contact the APL appointment booking line for appointment availability at 1-833-572-0577.

Effective

- Immediately

Actions Required

- Be aware of changes and communicate accordingly with patients as applicable.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Joanne Brisbois, Manager, Red Deer Laboratory, APL, joanne.brisbois@aplabs.ca, 403-343-4721
- Dr. Heidi Paulin, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief RDRHC, General Pathology Section Chief, South Sector, heid.paulin@aplabs.ca, 403-343-4709

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

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