

DATE:	2022 May 2
TO:	All Connect Care Health Care Providers
FROM:	APL & DynaLIFE
RE:	Connect Care Laboratory Specimen Source Consolidation

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective May 9, 2022, changes to specimen source are occurring in Connect Care (Epic).
- The following sources will be consolidated into a single specimen source named **Blood**: *venous, arterial, capillary, central line, mixed venous, central venous, and peripheral.*
- The following specimen sources will remain unchanged: *umbilical, stillborn, fetal, intraosseous, post mortem, ECMO, and blood spot.*
- All Point of Care, Microbiology, Anatomic Pathology and Cytology specimen sources will remain unaffected.
- Orders / tests where a required specimen source is required, or the source has specific ranges, such as arterial blood gas, the source will not be changed.

Background

- Providers are placing orders with inconsistent blood specimen source which prevents the intended container/specimen sharing when the specimen label is printed from Connect Care. This causes significant workflow issues within the lab and can result in patient safety impacts due to missed tests, delays in testing and recollection requirements.

How this will impact you

- If you are ordering in Connect Care (Epic), you may notice that your personal preference list will have the specimen source field blanked out. However, the source will still populate on the order from the default set for the individual procedures.
- The default you have chosen for your personal preference list will be removed and will be replaced by the new default in the Procedure/Orderable if it is one of the following: *venous, arterial, capillary, central line, mixed venous, central venous, and peripheral.*
- If you are the authorizing provider, you will have to change the specimen source if one other than *Blood* is more appropriate when you are placing the order.
- Reports will show the specimen source as **Blood**.
- The specimen source will only need to be updated if the specimen is from a non-blood source or if there is a specific type of blood that is important to differentiate for interpretation.
- Order sets, Therapy Plans and Smartsets will take longer to update so the default may show the old source. This will update to Blood once the order is Signed. This will decrease over time.
- On the Worklist, the Acknowledge task may show the old source. This will be updated to Blood once the Label has printed. This will decrease over time.



Action Required

- *None*; the updates to Personalized Preference Lists, Ordersets, Therapy Plans and Smartsets will be made by IT.

Effective

- May 8, 2022 at 2330h

Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Etienne Mahe, Medical Informatics Lead, APL; Etienne.mahe@aplabs.ca
- Dr. Susan Nahirniak, Medical Informatics Leads, APL; susan.nahirniak@aplabs.ca

Approved by

- Dr. Etienne Mahe and Dr. Susan Nahirniak, Medical Informatics Leads, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
- Dr. Erene Farag, Interim Medical Director, DynaLIFE Medical Lab

Appendix

Before and After screen shots illustrating changes:

Before (current):

Status: Normal Standing Future Old

Expected Date: Today Tomorrow 1 Week 2 Weeks 1 Month 3 Months 6 Months
 Approx.

Expires: 19/04/2023

Priority: Routine Routine STAT

Class: Lab Collect Lab Collect Clinic Collect Third Party

Specimen Type: Blood Blood

Specimen Type: Blood, Venc. Blood, Venous Blood, Central Line Blood, Arterial Blood, Capillary

Specimen Src:

Submitter:

Comments: [+ Add Comments \(F6\)](#)

Resulting Agency:

Add-on: No add-on specimen found

Recipient	Modifier	Add PCP
		<input type="text"/>
		<input type="text"/>
Build My Lists		
Clear All		

Show Additional Order Details



After (starting May 9, 2022):

Status: New


Expected Date: Appro

Expires:

Priority:

Class:

Specimen Type:

Specimen Src: 

Submitter:

Comments: [+ Add Comments \(F6\)](#)

Resulting Agency:

Add-on: No add-on specimen found

Recipient	Modifier	
		Add PCP <input type="button" value="v"/>
		Add My List <input type="button" value="v"/>
		Build My Lists
		Clear All

Show Additional Order Details