



Date: February 1, 2021
To: Edmonton Zone, North Zone, Central Zone
From: Genetics and Genomics
Re: Delays in Reporting First Trimester Prenatal Screen Results

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Key Message

- Due to a technical issue, health providers may notice a delay in reporting of first trimester prenatal screens performed by Alberta Precision Laboratories at the University of Alberta Hospital.

Background

- Genetics and Genomics, North Sector performs the biochemical testing, integrates the results with the nuchal translucency and other risk factors and issues a risk assessment for fetal aneuploidy (trisomy 21, 18, 13) for pregnant women in the Edmonton, North, and Central zones.
- The standard turn-around-time for first trimester prenatal screens is 10 days. Due to technical problems, providers may notice a delay in these reports for patients presenting for testing between the gestational ages of 11w 2 d and 11w 6 d. We will continue to monitor the situation and enact a contingency plan for testing if reporting exceeds 14 days from sample receipt.

How this will impact you

- Providers may notice a delay in reporting of first trimester prenatal screens.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. Miranda Brun, Clinical Biochemist, Clinical Biochemistry, North Sector, APL
Phone: 780-722-4123

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Dr. Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetics and Genomics, APL
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim), APL