

<b>DATE:</b>	14 November 2023
<b>TO:</b>	All Physicians and Clinicians
<b>FROM:</b>	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) – Public Health Laboratory
<b>RE:</b>	Dengue and Chikungunya Serology Result Calling

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### Key Message

- **As of October 31, 2023, the Public Health Laboratory (ProvLab) will no longer be calling ordering providers with positive Dengue virus and Chikungunya virus IgM results.**
- **All clinicians who order these tests, are encouraged to check results via the usual mechanism by which they receive their laboratory testing results.**
- **Dengue and Chikungunya virus serology results are available on both NetCare and Connect Care.**

### Background

- The Public Health Laboratory (ProvLab) at Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) currently performs dengue (DENV) and chikungunya (CHIKV) virus testing in the form of serology (IgM/IgG) and nucleic acid amplification (NAT/PCR) testing. DENV and CHIKV are arboviruses that are acquired via travel to endemic areas and transmitted via the bite of infected mosquitoes. The majority of returning travelers presenting with these infections are usually discharged to outpatient care at the time serology testing results are available. The presence of a positive DENV/CHIKV IgM can represent an acute infection, persisting IgM from a prior infection, or a cross-reactivity of the IgM assay with other antigens/materials in the patient's serum.

### Change in calling of positive IgM results

- From October 31, 2023, APL ProvLab will no longer be contacting ordering providers of positive DENV or CHIKV IgM results. Results will be available as soon as serology testing results are verified via usual electronic methods by which clinical providers receive their lab results. Results are also posted to NetCare and Connect Care once verified provided the appropriate clinical information was provided on the requisition accompanying the testing request.

### Action Required

- Clinicians wanting to review DENV or CHIKV IgM results should access NetCare, Connect Care, or review results via the method in which they routinely receive patient lab testing results.
- Thank you for your cooperation on this

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Dr. Jamil Kanji, Medical Microbiologist, Public Health Laboratory, Alberta Precision Laboratories ([jamil.kanji@ahs.ca](mailto:jamil.kanji@ahs.ca)).



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**This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by**

- Dr. Graham Tipples, Medical and Scientific Director, Public Health Laboratory, Alberta Precision Laboratories

*Effective September 1, 2023, APL has become the sole provider of all public lab services in Alberta. As a result, community lab services formally provided by DynaLIFE Medical Labs will become the responsibility of Alberta Precision Labs (APL). This change impacts all zones.*