

DATE:	13 May 2024
TO:	Clinical staff in all Zones as well as Population & Public Health teams
FROM:	Transfusion and Transplantation Medicine Provincial Program
RE:	Direct Antiglobulin Test (DAT) add-ons for neonates

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective 21 May 2024 Direct Antiglobulin Test (DAT) orders to assess for hemolytic disease of the newborn may be added on to previously collected cord blood samples in Connect Care's Epic system. These cord blood samples will be available for add-ons requests for 7 days post collection. Unlike other laboratory tests, this add-on process for DATs is now available for both inpatient and outpatient requests.

Background

- Previously, Transfusion Medicine samples had been excluded for eligibility for the Add-On request process in Epic, and a manual *Laboratory Add-on / Order Modification Requisition* was required.

How this will impact you

- You will now be presented with a suggested specimen when placing the order in Connect Care's Epic modules, if there is a sample available that qualifies for the add-on test.

Action Required

- When a neonate requires a DAT to be added on to the cord samples, select the suggested sample that is displayed in the Epic order.
- If there is no access to place an order in Epic, the Laboratory Add-on / Order Modification Requisition ([CH-0679 \(Rev2021-03\)](#)) will be required.
- If an appropriate sample is not identified for add-on in Epic, a new collection is indicated.

Effective 21 May 2024

Questions/Concerns

- APL TSO (Transfusion Safety Officer) Team: Transfusion.SafetyTeam@aplabs.ca

Approved by

- Dr Susan Nahirniak, Medical Director, APL Provincial Transfusion and Transplantation Medicine Program, susan.nahirniak@aplabs.ca

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.