



Date: March 8, 2021
To: Lethbridge and Area & Medicine Hat and Area Physicians, Nursing and Laboratory staff
From: South Zone (SZ) Hematology Laboratories, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
Re: Discontinuation of Urine Hemosiderin Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- Effective March 8, 2021, South Zone Hematology will discontinue on site urine hemosiderin testing.
- Testing will be referred to Calgary Diagnostic Scientific Centre (DSC) and then out of province to In Common Laboratories, ON, CA.
- Test results will be available in Netcare.
- Estimated turn-around-time will be approximately 1 week.
- Test can be ordered as HEMSURRO (referred out test code).

Why this is important:

- Current urine hemosiderin testing volume is very low (1 test per year) and it is not justifiable to continue with on-site testing.
- APL continues to review practices with the goal to optimize test utilization and cost effectiveness in providing quality testing for patient care.

Action Required:

- Refer to the APL Test Directory for further details about sample collection, storage, and transportation conditions.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. Krishna Narra, Regional Lab Medicine Site Chief, Chinook Regional Hospital, 403-388-6063, krishna.narra@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
- Dr. Spencer Paulson, Regional Lab Medicine Site Chief, Medicine Hat Regional Hospital, 403-528-8149, spencer.paulson@albertaprecisionlabs.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Dr. Krishna Narra, Regional Lab Medicine Site Chief, Chinook Regional Hospital
- Dr. Spencer Paulson, Regional Lab Medicine Site Chief, Medicine Hat Regional Hospital