

DATE:	26 June 2023
TO:	All Zones: Physicians, Nurses and Healthcare Providers, Laboratory Staff
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Discontinuation of Urine N-telopeptide (NTx) assay in Alberta

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective August 1, 2023 Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) will no longer be able to test for Urine N-telopeptide (NTx)
- The only Health Canada approved ELISA assay for Urine N-telopeptide (NTx) has been discontinued by the manufacturer.
- The International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) and International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) Bone Marker Standard Working Groups suggest using serum C-telopeptide (CTx, Beta-Crosslaps) assay as a bone resorption marker rather than NTx

How this will impact you

- Urine NTx will no longer be orderable as of August 1, 2023
- Order CTx (test name in Epic: C-Telopeptide) instead of NTx, when clinically indicated
 - Urine NTx exhibits smaller changes in response to anti-resorptive therapies and demonstrates greater day-to-day variability than CTx

Action Required

- Re-baslining patients using the CTx assay may be necessary for patients historically monitored with NTx

Effective

- August 1, 2023

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

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