

<b>DATE:</b>	2022 June 13
<b>TO:</b>	All Zones
<b>FROM:</b>	Genetics and Genomics, APL
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Discontinue collection of paternal samples for prenatal CMA testing</b>

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## PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

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### Key Message

- Effective immediately the Cytogenetics Laboratories, North and South (in Edmonton and Calgary) will no longer store paternal peripheral blood samples for prenatal chromosomal microarray (CMA) cases.

### Background

- Historically, paternal blood samples were collected when CMA testing was ordered on a CVS or amniocentesis sample in case parental testing was required prior to reporting the prenatal result. This process was implemented to ensure turnaround times were not impacted when parental testing was required. In review however, these paternal blood samples have rarely been required.

### How this will impact you

- The laboratory will no longer store paternal blood samples when the sole indication for sample collection is prenatal CMA testing. Samples received for this reason after the distribution of this bulletin will be discarded. If a paternal blood sample is required for interpretation of the prenatal result, the laboratory will contact the ordering provider directly to make this request.
- If there are extenuating circumstances where collection of a paternal sample would be exceedingly difficult or delayed, at their discretion the clinician may request to have a paternal blood sample stored. This requisition **MUST** clearly indicate that the sample is to be stored and the reason. If this information is not included, the paternal sample will be discarded.

### Action Required

- Discontinue submitting paternal blood samples when the sole indication is prenatal CMA testing.
- There are no changes to the requirements for maternal cell contamination (MCC) studies. Please continue to submit maternal blood samples for MCC as indicated.

**Effective**      **Immediately**

### Questions/Concerns

- Genetics & Genomics, North - Genetic Counsellors, University of Alberta Hospital 780-407-1015
- Genetics & Genomics, South - Genetic Counsellors, Alberta Children's Hospital 403-955-3097

### Approved by

- Dr. Jillian Parboosingh & Dr. Lauren MacNeil, Acting Co-Medical/Scientific Directors, Genetics & Genomics
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim), APL