

DATE:	13 May 2024
TO:	Edmonton Zone and North Zone, Dermatopathology Clinicians
FROM:	Anatomic Pathology, EDM Base Lab
RE:	Inflammatory Skin Conditions

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- We are writing to bring your attention to an important update regarding the requisition process for skin biopsies, particularly those related to inflammatory conditions. As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance efficiency and reduce turnaround times, we have implemented new protocols for handling inflammatory skin biopsies.

Background

- The prior process for inflammatory skin conditions did not trigger an upfront special stain protocol causing potential delays to case sign out. The new process allows for the protocol to be ordered at the time of specimen receipt based on the ordering and clinical history provided by the clinician.

Action Required

- To ensure the smooth implementation of these protocols and to expedite the processing of inflammatory skin biopsy specimens, we kindly request all physicians to carefully review and complete the requisition form by checking the designated box for inflammatory skin biopsies.

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-21147.pdf>

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-19027.pdf>

Clinical History - Mandatory *(Include clinical diagnosis/differential, anatomic distribution, duration, morphology, any relevant systemic disease, syndrome, exposure and any other important information)*

<input type="checkbox"/> Alopecia
<input type="checkbox"/> AK/ BCC/ SCC/ SK
<input type="checkbox"/> Rash
<input type="checkbox"/> Immunofluorescence
<input type="checkbox"/> Dysplastic Nevi
<input type="checkbox"/> Melanoma
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inflammatory Dermatitis _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Is the patient on any medications? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<i>(if yes, specify)</i> _____



Effective Immediately

Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Jeremy Daniels, Interim Lead, Anatomic Pathology- Community Lab Services, North Zone
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- Rebecca Nawaz, Manager, Anatomic Pathology, EDM Base Lab
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Approved by

- Dr. Erene Farag, Associate Medical Director Hub Lab North
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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.