

<b>DATE:</b>	August 8, 2022
<b>TO:</b>	All Healthcare Providers especially Gastroenterology, Internal Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy
<b>FROM:</b>	University of Alberta Hospital (UAH), Special Chemistry Laboratory, Edmonton
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Infliximab Antibodies Test Temporarily Referred out to Prometheus Laboratories</b>

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### Key Message

- **Effective immediately**, the Infliximab Antibodies test offered by the University of Alberta Hospital, Special Chemistry Laboratory in Edmonton will temporarily be referred out to Prometheus Laboratories in California.

### Background

- On June 10, 2022, all infliximab antibody requests were routed to St Paul's Hospital Laboratory in BC due to technical challenges with reagents.
- Physicians have expressed concerns with the BC referral lab turnaround time of ~1 month.
- The University of Alberta Hospital, Special Chemistry Laboratory is unable to run and report the Infliximab Antibodies test until further notice. Work is underway to validate a new total infliximab antibody ELISA assay.

### How this will impact you

- Blood collected into a **SERUM** gold or red top tube is the only acceptable sample type for infliximab level and infliximab antibody. Plasma lavender EDTA tubes will NOT BE ACCEPTED.
- The Special Chemistry Laboratory in Edmonton will continue to run and report the Infliximab Level.
- For subtherapeutic drug concentrations (Infliximab Level <3.0ug/mL), a comment will append: "Infliximab antibodies test referred out. Report to follow."
- Reflex testing for infliximab antibodies will be measured by a different method; a size exclusion chromatography mobility shift assay on a High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) system.

Infliximab Antibody Test	Reference Interval	Interpretation
EDM ELISA	<2 ug/mL	Dose optimize
Prometheus HPLC	<3.1 U/mL	Undetectable Antibodies to Infliximab

- The presence of detectable antibodies to infliximab is associated with a shorter half-life, increased clearance, and a shorter duration of response.
- The expected turnaround time for reported results is one week.
- Referral lab reports will be scanned into Epic but will not appear in Netcare. Physicians that are not on Connect Care will receive a paper copy of the report in the mail.

### Action Required

- A **complete** APL Infliximab Level Order Form signed by a specialist **MUST** be sent with the **SERUM** specimen. Incomplete forms may result in testing delays.

### Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Kareena Schnabl, Clinical Biochemist, (780) 407-3186, [kareena.schnabl@aplabs.ca](mailto:kareena.schnabl@aplabs.ca)

### Approved by

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