

DATE:	2022 June 10
TO:	All Healthcare Providers especially Gastroenterology, All Zones
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories, University of Alberta Hospital, Special Chemistry Lab, Edmonton
RE:	Infliximab Antibodies Test Temporarily Referred Out to St Paul's Hospital Lab, BC

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- **Effective immediately**, the Infliximab Antibodies test offered by the University of Alberta Hospital, Special Chemistry Lab in Edmonton will temporarily be referred out to St Paul's Hospital Lab in BC.

Background

- Due to technical challenges, the University of Alberta Hospital, Special Chemistry Laboratory is unable to run and report the Infliximab Antibodies test until further notice.

How this will impact you

- Blood collected into a **serum** gold or a red top tube is the acceptable sample type. The referral lab DOES NOT ACCEPT plasma lavender EDTA tubes. The minimum blood collection volume is 4mL.
- The Special Chemistry Laboratory in Edmonton will continue to run and report 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 total antibodies to infliximab will be measured by a different ELISA kit at St Paul's Hospital Laboratory (see report change below).

Antibodies to Infliximab	Interpretation
Not Detected	Antibodies to infliximab not detected.
1+	Antibodies to infliximab detected, clinical significance uncertain.
2+ or 3+	Antibodies to infliximab detected at significant concentrations.

- Infliximab antibodies are run every second week on Thursday. Expect delays in turnaround time
- Referral lab reports will be scanned into Epic Beaker but will not appear in Netcare. Physicians that are not in 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 specimen. Incomplete forms may result in testing delays.
- Become familiar with the referral lab requirements for Infliximab Antibody testing https://www.providencelaboratory.com/test_catalog.php?ID=441

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, APL, North Sector
- Dr. Paul Klonowski, Associate Medical Director, APL, South Sector