

DATE:	2021 June 28
TO:	Central Zone Physicians, Laboratory Directors, Managers, and Supervisors
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Referral of Anti-Streptolysin O (ASO) Testing to Edmonton

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Key Message

- Effective **July 6, 2021**, ASO will no longer be measured at Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre lab and will be referred to DynaLIFE Medical Labs in Edmonton except specimens from Drumheller, Hanna and Three Hills Health Centers will be referred to the Diagnostic Scientific Centre in Calgary.
- Anticipated turnaround time is 24-48 hours depending on time of collection.
- Results will be available in Netcare and Physician Office Systems (POS).

Why this is Important

- ASO measures antibodies to *Streptococcus pyogenes* (group A streptococci), with higher levels indicating more recent exposure.
- This test detects antecedent group A streptococcal infection and may be used in the diagnosis and follow-up of suspected cases of acute rheumatic fever and other post-streptococcal sequelae.

Action Required

- Order **SORO** for all ASO testing.
- Refer to the APL Test Directory (<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/webapps/labservices/indexAPL.asp?id=9140&tests=&zoneid=1&details=true>) for instructions.

Inquiries and Feedback may be directed to

- Yury Butorin, PhD, Clinical Biochemist, Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre, 403-406-5633, Yury.Butorin@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
- DynaLIFE Clinical Chemists, 780-451-3702 ext. 3572 or clinical.chemists@dynalife.ca

This Bulletin has been Reviewed and Approved by

- Heidi Paulin, MD, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief for Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre
- Hossein Sadrzadeh, PhD, Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector
- Leland Baskin, MD, Associate Medical Director, South Sector