

DATE:	2022 May 2
TO:	Central Zone Physicians and Nursing Staff
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, North Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Referral of CSF protein and glucose testing from St. Mary's Hospital to Edmonton

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Key Message

- Effective **May 10, 2022**, testing of total protein and glucose on CSF will be discontinued at St. Mary's Hospital Lab in Camrose and will be referred to the DynaLIFE in Edmonton.
- For STAT requests, CSF samples will be cabled to Edmonton with anticipated TAT of approximately 3 hours from the moment sample is received by the lab.
- Results will be available in Netcare and Physician Office Systems (POS).
- CSF cell count and differentials will continue being reported on-site.
- Five sites that currently are sending their CSF protein and glucose testing to Camrose (i.e. Tofield, Killam, Daysland, Viking, Bashaw) will be referring their CSF chemistry orders directly to DynaLIFE in Edmonton.

Why this is Important

- CSF protein and glucose are rarely ordered at St. Mary's Hospital averaging one order per two months in the past year.
- St. Mary's Hospital Lab has been experiencing analytical issues in the last year for testing of CSF glucose and protein. Troubleshooting for these tests is time-consuming resulting in potential delays in reporting.
- St. Mary's Hospital is the only laboratory in rural Central Zone that has been performing CSF protein and glucose testing, while all other labs are referring their CSF chemistry orders to either Edmonton or Red Deer.

Action Required

- Please order CSF protein and glucose tests using referred out Meditech codes **GLUCSFRO** and **PROTCSFRO** respectively.

Inquiries and Feedback may be directed to

- Yury Butorin, PhD, Clinical Biochemist, Red Deer Regional Hospital, 403-406-5633, yury.butorin@aplabs.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
- Kareena Schnabl, PhD, Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, North Sector
- Michael Mengel, MD, Medical Director, North Sector
- Dr. Mathew Estey, Director of Chemistry, DynaLIFE Medical Labs
- Dr. Erene Farag, Interim Medical Director, DynaLIFE Medical Labs