

DATE:	2021 July 26
TO:	Healthcare providers in Edmonton Zone
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), North Sector
RE:	Removal of iSTAT Troponin I as Backup Method at Edmonton Suburban Rural Centres

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Key Message

- The Abbott iSTAT troponin I assay will no longer be used as a backup method at:
 - Devon General Hospital
 - East Edmonton Health Centre
 - Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital
 - Leduc Community Hospital
 - Northeast Community Health Centre
 - Redwater Health Centre
 - Strathcona Community Hospital
 - Westview Health Centre
- In the event of a potential delay in troponin I testing, samples will be sent to a nearby site with the same method so results can be compared and trended.

Background

- Currently, the listed sites use different primary methods for troponin I testing, and the Abbott iSTAT is used as a common backup method for troponin I.
- Different troponin I methods may give potentially significantly different numerical values. Results cannot be compared between different methods. This variation between troponin I assays can increase the potential for misinterpretation of results.
- This change also aligns with provincial standardization efforts.

How this will impact you

- Samples will be referred to a nearby site with the same method in situations where the primary method for troponin I is unavailable due to maintenance or repair. In this situation turn around times may be increased.
- Sites will continue to communicate with clinicians to alert them when a delay is anticipated and when samples will be referred to a nearby testing site.

Action Required

- Be aware that turn around time for troponin I may be affected in situations when the primary method is unavailable and samples need to be referred to a nearby site.

Effective: August 9, 2021

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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