

DATE:	2021 July 12
TO:	Lethbridge and Area Physicians, Nursing Staff and Laboratory Staff
FROM:	Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Temporary Referral of Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Testing

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Key Message

- Due to instrumentation challenges, staffing pressure and commitment to ongoing projects (Roche implementation and Care validation), effective July 12, 2021, the Chemistry department located at the Chinook Regional Hospital, will temporarily refer out testing for Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) to the Diagnostic Scientific Centre, Calgary. Referred out testing will remain in place until implantation of new Chemistry analyzers.
- Anticipated turnaround time is 24 – 72 hours depending on time of collection.
- Results will be available in Netcare and Physician Office Systems (POS).

How this will impact you

- When a HBA1C is ordered after July 12, 2021, there will be a pop up indicating that HBA1C is currently unavailable. There will be no impact to specimen collection procedures.

Action Required

- Order HBA1CRO as the temporary test code in a separate order.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Dr. Dennis Orton, Clinical Biochemist, South Sector – Chinook Regional Hospital, (403) 770-3219, Dennis.Orton@aplabs.ca
- Diana Kristensen, Clinical Supervisor Pre-Analytics, Alberta Precision Laboratories, Chinook Regional Hospital, (587) 787-2397

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Krishna Narra, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief, Chinook Regional Hospital