

<b>DATE:</b>	3 October 2023
<b>TO:</b>	Launch 1 through 7 Connect Care sites
<b>FROM:</b>	Alberta Precision Labs (APL) Transfusion Medicine (TM)
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Transfusion Medicine Downtime – November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup></b>

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## PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

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### Key Message

There will be a 5 hour **provincial** downtime of the Transfusion Medicine (TM) Laboratory Information Systems starting at **2359h on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> until 0500h on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. This will occur at all sites fully live on Connect Care sites and all Connect Care launch 7 sites in South and North Zone, including Northern Lights Regional Health Centre (NLRHC) and Redwater Health Centre which are currently in Transfusion Medicine interim states. Haemobank refrigerators in Calgary and Edmonton will also experience downtime windows of variable durations that will be communicated directly to their primary users and locations.

- A. For Launch 7 sites, including NLRHC, preadmission clinic (PAC) patients with procedures scheduled on or after November 5<sup>th</sup>, should not have their type and screens collected until after 0500h on November 5<sup>th</sup>.
- B. For patients with valid testing completed prior to the downtime (confirmed in either NetCare or Connect Care):
- Do NOT remove the patients TSIN band if the type and screen would still be valid on November 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Blood components and derivatives/plasma protein products will be available throughout the downtime.
    - Serologically crossmatched units will be set aside for any patient with antibodies.
    - All requests need to be submitted on the downtime request form and faxed to the relevant TM laboratory.
    - Any urgent requests should also be called to the TM laboratory.
    - For launch 1-6 sites ONLY, please be aware that Connect Care's Blood Product Administration Module (BPAM) will not be receiving unit information to allow for system checking of units during this downtime window.
  - **For launch 7 sites** - new Type and Screen orders must be placed and collected after 0500h on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to allow ongoing issue of crossmatched products.
    - The old TSIN band can be removed once testing has been completed and resulted in Connect Care.
- C. For patients without testing completed prior to TM downtime – all sites:
- Request and collect new type and screen – these will be processed using downtime procedures if urgent. Non urgent requests will be held until after 0500h.
  - All component and product requests need to be submitted on the downtime request form and faxed to the relevant TM laboratory.
  - Any urgent requests should also be called to the TM laboratory.
  - Connect Care's Blood Product Administration Module (BPAM) will not be receiving unit information to allow system checking of units during this downtime window.



## Background

To allow for sufficient time to do data extraction, quality assurance of extracts and cutover of data from Meditech laboratory information systems into the WellSky platform, a Transfusion Medicine downtime is required. Unfortunately, sites that are already live on WellSky will also require a downtime to allow the data to be uploaded. This necessitates downtime procedures to be put in place for both the transfusion medicine laboratory as well as for the prescribers and clinical teams needing transfusion medicine testing or blood component / plasma protein product support.

## How this will impact you

Orders for transfusion medicine testing or blood components / plasma protein products will be affected at all facilities with transfusion medicine activity across the province.

## Action Required

Familiarization with downtime processes for ordering testing and blood components.

**Effective** November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## Questions/Concerns

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- Cathy Davies- Chinook Regional Hospital TM Tech II ([Cathy.Davies@albertaprecisionlabs.ca](mailto:Cathy.Davies@albertaprecisionlabs.ca))
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## Approved by

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*Effective September 1, 2023, APL has become the sole provider of all public lab services in Alberta. As a result, community lab services formally provided by DynaLIFE Medical Labs will become the responsibility of Alberta Precision Labs (APL). This change impacts all zones.*