

DATE:	2021 March 22
TO:	Clinicians and Laboratorians, Alberta-Wide
FROM:	Anatomic Pathology, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Universal Lynch Syndrome Screening for Colorectal Cancer

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective immediately, Alberta Precision Laboratories will begin a universal Lynch syndrome screening protocol for all patients with colorectal cancer.

Why this is important:

- Every new diagnosis of colorectal cancer is now eligible for and should receive reflexive screening for Lynch syndrome using immunohistochemistry for PMS2 and MSH6. Patients with abnormal screening results will receive further workup with additional immunohistochemistry and molecular pathology testing, if needed. These results will be available as addenda to the biopsy in most cases, with resection specimens tested only if the biopsy specimen was not tested or if the results were equivocal.

Action Required:

- Pathologists at EPIC-live sites: Please order the PMS2/MSH6 immunohistochemistry screen on all new colon cancer diagnoses using the 'Case Builder' function. For surgical cases, review previous biopsy results to ensure that MMR studies have been completed.
- Pathologists at sites without EPIC: Please order the PMS2/MSH6 immunohistochemistry screen on all new colon cancer diagnoses using the immunohistochemistry request process currently in place at your site. For surgical cases, review previous biopsy results to ensure that MMR studies have been completed.
- Endoscopists and surgeons providing the diagnostic material: Please review all pathology reports for MMR studies. If clinically indicated, please refer patients with abnormal screening results to medical genetics for evaluation.
- Oncologists: Please review all pathology reports for MMR studies. If clinically indicated and not performed by the endoscopist/surgeon, please refer patients with abnormal screening results to medical genetics for evaluation.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Cheryl Mather, MD, 780-407-2758, Cheryl.Mather@aplabs.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Dr. Judith Hugh, North Section Chief Anatomical Pathology, APL
- Dr. Ranjit Waghray, South Section Chief, Anatomical Pathology, APL