

DATE:	2022 July 15
TO:	All Zones: Physicians, Nurses and Healthcare Practitioners, and all Laboratory Services Staff
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Urinalysis Reagent Shortage: Impact to Turnaround Time and Availability of Urinalysis Testing

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Key Message

- Constrained supply levels of urinalysis reagent used across Canada are impacting community/outpatient testing in Calgary (Diagnostic and Scientific Centre site), as well as testing for patients at the following urban acute care and regional hospitals sites across Alberta:
 - University of Alberta Hospital, Edmonton
 - Foothills Medical Centre, Calgary
 - Peter Lougheed Centre, Calgary
 - Rockyview General Hospital, Calgary
 - South Health Campus, Calgary
 - Grande Prairie Regional Hospital, Grande Prairie
 - Red Deer Regional Hospital, Red Deer
- Due to critically low supply, utilization controls are necessary for the foreseeable future. Increased turnaround time for results may be experienced until supply issues resolve.
- Only order urinalysis testing that is required for **urgent** management of the patient.

Background

- The supplier of urinalysis reagent employed at the above sites has indicated on-going product shortages nationally; resolution of the shortage is unknown at this time.

How this will impact you

- Alternative testing at the impacted sites is available; however the semi-automated nature of the test will lead to a significant increase in result turnaround time.

Action Required

- Limit urinalysis ordering to only **urgent** management of the patient.
- Encourage your patients to postpone routine urinalysis testing that is for health monitoring, where clinically acceptable.

Questions/Concerns

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