

Date: September 17, 2012

To: Central Zone – Former David Thompson Health Region: Physicians, Nurses and Laboratories

From: AHS Laboratory Services

Re: Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT) – Reference Range Change

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

Effective **September 18, 2012** in Red Deer, and **October 3, 2012** in all other former David Thompson Health Region (DTHR) sites currently performing Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT) testing, except for Wetaskiwin Hospital and Care Centre and Drayton Valley Hospital and Care Centre, we will implement a revised method for ALT.

The reference range for females and males of all ages for all former DTHR sites will be changed to less than 60 U/L.

Why this is important:

A minimal, clinically insignificant shift in patient results will occur with the switch to the revised method. This change will provide improved correlation of ALT results obtained by the different analyzers across the sites.

This method change provides the opportunity to simplify and standardize the ALT reference range for all former DTHR sites.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. James Wesenberg, AHS Provincial Medical / Scientific Director, Laboratory Services