

Date: October 9, 2014

To: Central Zone: Our Lady of the Rosary Hospital - Castor
Coronation Hospital and Care Centre
Physicians, Nurses and Laboratory Directors and Managers

From: AHS Laboratory Services – Central Zone

Re: Addition of On-Site Testing for Lactate in Specific Central Zone Laboratories

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Lactate has become an important test in the investigation of sepsis.
- Effective **November 5, 2014** on-site testing for lactate will be available at the following hospital and healthcare centre (HCC) laboratory locations in Central Zone:

Laboratory Locations

- Our Lady of the Rosary Hospital – Castor
- Coronation Hospital and Care Centre

Why this is important:

- Lactate testing is recommended at the time of presentation in those patients suspected of having sepsis:

If the initial Lactate result is ...	Then ...
Less than or equal to 4.0 mmol/L	Subsequent lactate testing is not indicated.
Greater than 4.0 mmol/L	Repeat lactate testing every 4-6 hours after initiating therapy until the lactate concentration has decreased to less than or equal to 4.0 mmol/L and then subsequent lactate testing is not required.

Note: Repeat lactate testing is unavailable if the most recent result within the past three days is ≤ 4.0 mmol/L. Exceptions to this algorithm will require approval of the clinical biochemist or pathologist on-call.

- The provincial reference interval for lactate is 0.5 – 2.2 mmol/L.
- The provincial critical value, important for sepsis investigation, is greater than 4.0 mmol/L.

Inquires and feedback may be directed to:

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Contact at:
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“This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by Dr. James Wesenberg”