

Date: December 4, 2015
To: SRCs Surgeons, SRCs OR Nursing Staff
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: Changes to the submission of tissue samples requiring the Anatomical Pathology Lymphoma Protocol at Suburban/Rural Centres (SRCs).

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- **Effective immediately** the Suburban/Rural Centres (SRCs) will change the way tissue samples requiring the lymphoma protocol are submitted.
- Due to long transportation routes and lack of anatomical pathology laboratory staff onsite, SRCs will **not** submit tissue samples requiring the lymphoma protocol as fresh samples.
- In order to produce the best possible sample for testing and diagnosis it has been identified that the SRCs should submit all tissue samples requiring the lymphoma protocol **in formalin**.
- The use of fetal calf serum for samples requiring the lymphoma protocol has been discontinued in the Edmonton Zone.
- All tissue biopsies requiring the lymphoma protocol from the SRCs will be sent to DynaLIFEDx where the sample will be read by an onsite pathologist. The case may be referred for consultation with a member of the Lymphoma Diagnostic Team if necessary.

Why this is important:

- The Edmonton Zone lymphoma special interest group has provided input to help incorporate best practices into the lymphoma protocol. These changes to the lymphoma protocol help to:
 - Decrease turn around times for specimens requiring the lymphoma protocol to provide optimal patient care.
 - Standardize lymphoma protocol practices across the Edmonton Zone
 - Decrease the duplication of processes

Action Required:

- All **SRCs** clinicians should submit specimens requiring the lymphoma protocol into an appropriately labelled container with **formalin**.
- **Supporting Document:** Lymphoma Protocol for SRCs on the [AP Website](#) (on Insite).

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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