

Date: November 15, 2016

To: Edmonton, Central & North Zones

From: Genetic Laboratory Services (GLS)

Re: Changes to Ordering Restrictions for BRCA1/BRCA2 Testing for Symptomatic Patients with Ovarian Cancer

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Key Messages:

The GLS North Molecular Diagnostic Lab, located at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, has changed its ordering restrictions for BRCA1/BRCA2 testing.

As of Monday, November 14, 2016, Gynecological Oncologists in the Edmonton, Central and North Zones will now be able to order BRCA1/BRCA2 testing directly for patients diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

The Medical Genetics Clinic will continue to provide genetic counselling to individuals found to carry a pathogenic variant or variant of unknown significance. Individuals with an uninformative result who have a significant personal and/or family history of cancer may also benefit from referral to Medical Genetics.

Ordering providers should consult approved clinical guidelines for the management of individuals at increased risk of inherited forms of ovarian cancer.

Testing for patients with other inherited cancers, and at risk family members, remains restricted to ordering by Medical Geneticists at this time.

This communication applies to testing performed in the GLS North (Edmonton) Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory only. Physicians in Calgary and South Zones should contact the GLS South Genetic Counsellors for information on ordering genetic testing for ovarian cancer.

Why this is important:

This change in ordering restrictions will allow patients faster access to genetic testing which may impact their medical management.

Action Required:

Please refer to the Genetic Laboratory Services website for requisition forms and information sheets at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/lab/Page8667.aspx>

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

GLS North Molecular Diagnostic Lab – 780-407-1434
GLS North Genetic Counsellors – 780-407-1015
GLS South Genetic Counsellors – 403-955-3097

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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