

Date: May 10, 2019
To: Westview Health Centre Administrative, Medical and Nursing
From: Staff Alberta Public Laboratories (APL) – North Sector
Re: Changes to troponin I cutoff at Westview Health Centre

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- Effective **May 13, 2019 at 00:01 hrs**, the Westview Health Centre will transition to a new cutoff for troponin testing due to implementing a new troponin I assay.

| | <u>New assay</u> | <u>Old assay</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Reference Interval (µg/L) | ≤ 0.04 | < 0.15 |
| Interpretation | ≤ 0.04 (normal) > 0.04 (elevated) | < 0.15 (normal) ≥ 0.15 (elevated) |

- Results less than the lower limit will now be reported as <0.04. Some patients with previously reported values as <0.10 µg/L, will now be reported as a number and may be positive.
- To ensure the accuracy of troponin results close to the cutoff, all blood samples for troponin testing will require collection into 5.5 mL Barricor blood collection tubes as outlined in a previous bulletin on June 7, 2017 (<https://bit.ly/2DOz8iQ>).

Background:

- These changes align with the Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (2018, Joint ESC/ACCF/AHA/WHF Task Force for the Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction) and ASCC/IFCC Task Force on Clinical Laboratory Practice Recommendations, which states that decision points for conventional troponin assays should be at the 99th percentile upper reference limit of a reference population
- These changes will also allow implementation of the HEART risk prediction tool in the emergency department.

Action Required:

- Troponin results need to be interpreted differently than current practice. Appropriate management of these patients should be dictated by the clinical context and results of repeat troponin testing, if appropriate.
- Ensure that you are familiar with collection requirements for 5.5 mL Barricor tubes.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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This memo has been reviewed and approved by:

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