

**Date:** November 12, 2013

**To:** Central Zone – Former David Thompson Health Region Sites  
Nurses, Laboratory Directors and Managers

**From:** AHS Laboratory Services

**Re:** Iron Testing (Iron, TIBC and Iron Saturation) Order Code/Sample Handling Update

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**Key Messages:**

- In December 2012, specimen ordering, collection and labelling procedures were temporarily changed for processing Iron samples.
- Improvements to the Iron Assay performed at Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre Laboratory have since been made resulting in simplified ordering and sample handling instructions.

**Ordering and Sample Handling:**

**Effective November 19, 2013 at 10:00 AM**

1. Order the Iron Profile (Iron, TIBC, Iron Saturation Index) in Meditech by entering the test code **IRON**. The test code IRON1 will no longer be orderable.
2. A separate collection tube for IRON will **NO** longer be required.

**Additional Information:**

- Please refer to the AHS Central Zone (former DTHR) Guide to Lab Services for additional details at: <http://www7.albertahealthservices.ca/lab/tests/t445.htm>

**Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:**

- Dr. Allison Venner, Clinical Biochemist, Central Zone at: 403-406-5633 or email: [allison.venner@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:allison.venner@albertahealthservices.ca)

**This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:**

Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, AHS Medical / Scientific Director and ZCDH, Laboratory Services, Edmonton Zone