

Date: October 1, 2013

To: Central Zone Physicians, Nurse Managers and Educators
Laboratory Staff

From: AHS Laboratory Services, Central Zone

Re: Standardization of Critical Values for Magnesium and Iron

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Critical Values for Magnesium and Iron are being standardized provincially.
- Effective October 1, 2013 the following adjustment to ranges will be made:

Chemistry Analytes

Analyte	Age/Other	Critical Values		Units
		Less than	Greater than	
Magnesium		<0.40	>1.90	mmol/L
Iron	<12		>54	µmol/L

Why this is important:

- The standardization of Critical Values will provide consistency as to the levels at which physicians are notified of a Critical Result.

Action Required:

- Awareness of new critical notification values.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, AHS Laboratory Services, at: 403-343-4723 or by email at: james.wesenberg@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, AHS Laboratory Services