

Date: March 27, 2013

To: Central Zone – West and Southeast
Physicians, Nurses, Laboratories

From: AHS Laboratory Services

Re: Vitamin B12

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Vitamin B12 testing for the **Central Zone – West and Southeast** sites (former DTHR) will be repatriated to the laboratory in Red Deer on April 3, 2013.

Why this is important:

- A bulletin released May 28, 2012 indicated that Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics had issued a device recall letter for the reagent used for Vitamin B12 testing in Red Deer. Siemens has reformulated the assay and it has been satisfactorily evaluated in Red Deer for clinical use.
- The reference range for this new assay is “greater than 160 pmol/L”.

Action Required – Laboratory Supervisors

- The available ordering test code for Vitamin B12 will be changed in Meditech from “B12RO” to “B12” during the morning of April 3, 2013.
- Send tests ordered as “B12RO” (prior to the change) to the referral lab as is currently done. Send tests ordered as “B12” (after the change) to Red Deer.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. Allison Venner, Clinical Biochemist-Central Zone, 403-406-5633 or allison.venner@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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