

**Date:** March 11, 2019  
**To:** North Zone Physicians, Nursing Managers, Nursing Educators, Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Laboratory Directors, Managers, Supervisors  
**From:** Alberta Public Laboratories (APL)  
**Re:** Discontinuation of qualitative testing of Rheumatoid Factor in North Sector Rural Area 2 (former West Area) and Area 3 (former East Area)

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**PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE**

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**Key Message:**

- Effective March 18, 2019, qualitative determination of Rheumatoid Factor in serum performed at Barrhead, Bonnyville and Westlock Hospital Laboratories will be discontinued.
- All requests for Rheumatoid Factor testing in North Sector Rural Area 2 (former West Area) and Area 3 (former East Area) will be directed to Dynalife for quantitative measurement.
- For collection requirements and reference ranges please go to Dynalife Test Directory: <https://dynalifedx.com/testdirectory>

**Action Required:**

- Please be aware of change in methodology and difference in reporting (qualitative vs. quantitative).

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

Dr. Mireille Kattar Consultant Pathologist, Alberta Public Laboratories at 780-407-3373

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

Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Interim Chief Medical Laboratory Officer, Alberta Public Laboratories (APL)