

Date: April 22, 2019
To: All Calgary, Central and South Zone Physicians and Healthcare Providers
From: Dr. S.M. Hossein Sadrzadeh, Clinical Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry South Sector
Re: Discontinuation of stool magnesium, calcium and fluid specific gravity tests

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- Effective May 1, 2019, the following tests will no longer be offered locally:
 - Stool Calcium
 - Stool Magnesium
 - Fluid Specific Gravity

Why this is important:

These tests will be added to the discontinued tests list and will no longer be orderable in Cerner Millennium and Sunrise Clinical Manager.

Background:

- Very few of these tests are performed per year (2 per year in 2017 and 2018). More specific tests are available for the investigation of chronic diarrhea (Arasaradnam RP, *et al.* Guidelines for the investigation of chronic diarrhoea in adults: British Society of Gastroenterology, 3rd edition. *Gut* 2018 (67): 1380-1399).

Action Required:

- None

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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