



Laboratory Bulletin

Date: August 11th, 2016

To: All AHS Zones – Laboratory Directors, Managers, Supervisors, Physicians and Allied Health Care Professionals

From: All AHS Laboratory Services, Calgary Laboratory Services and DynaLIFE_{DX} Diagnostic Laboratory Services

Re: Fetal Fibronectin Result Comment for Discontinuation of Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Starting August 16th, 2016, all Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) test results will be reported with the following comment:

"fFN will be discontinued in fall 2016. See Anderson et al, Post-Policy Implementation Review of Rapid Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) Testing for Preterm Labour in Alberta, JOGC, Online May 12, 2016.

Additional info: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page7451.aspx>."

Why this is important:

- A post-implementation evaluation completed by the Maternal Newborn Child & Youth Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) of the efficacy of cervical /vaginal fetal fibronectin (fFN) in the evaluation and treatment of threatened preterm labour in Alberta, concluded that fFN did not result in improved preterm labor prediction, management, care, outcome or cost savings.
- Discontinuation of Fetal Fibronectin testing will be implemented in October 2016.

Action Required:

- Review of additional supporting information on management of preterm labour and the Practice Support Guideline- Clinical Assessment of 'At Risk' or Actual Preterm Labour for Triage Guideline may be found at: <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/7363.asp> or <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page7451.aspx>

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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