

**Date:** December 16, 2015

**To:** South Zone West:  
Physicians, Nursing Staff and Laboratory Staff

**From:** AHS Laboratory Services South Zone West

**Re:** Hepatitis B Testing

---

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

---

**Key Messages:**

- Effective January 5, 2016, Hepatitis B Surface Antigen and Hepatitis B Surface Antibody testing will no longer be performed at Chinook Regional Hospital (Lethbridge).
- Hepatitis B Surface Antigen and Antibody testing will be referred to Calgary Laboratory Services,
- Prenatal Serology including Hepatitis B Surface Antigen testing will continue to be referred to Provincial Laboratory, Calgary.
- Anticipated turn around time for results will be 24-48 hours.
- Results will be available in Netcare.

**Why this is important:**

- Vendor is unable to supply Hepatitis B Surface Antibody reagent.
- Consolidation of testing as per the AHS Laboratory Services Test Matrix.

**Action Required:**

- The Meditech Lab Information System has been updated to inactivate test codes that are no longer performed at Chinook Regional Hospital.
- Order HBSAGRO or HBSABRO as required.
- Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Requisition and Instructions are in the process of being updated. Refer to instructions below for copy of requisition.
  - Lethbridge: <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/Files/hr-whs-bbfe-south-lethbridge.pdf>
  - South West Rurals and Taber: <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/Files/hr-whs-bbfe-south-taber.pdf>
- If **STAT** testing is required, please contact Lab Client Services 403-388-6057.

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

Connie Hoffart, Chemistry Tech III at [Connie.Hoffart@ahs.ca](mailto:Connie.Hoffart@ahs.ca) or 403-388-6092  
Shelley Duncan, CRH Lab Manager at [Shelley.Duncan@ahs.ca](mailto:Shelley.Duncan@ahs.ca) or 403-388-6556

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

Dr. Michael Greeff, AHS Zone Clinical Department Head (Co-Lead) Laboratory Medicine, South Zone  
Dorothy Ward, South Zone Laboratory Director