

Date: October 13, 2016

To: North Zone – Former Peace Country Health Region Laboratories, Physicians, and Nursing Unit, Managers

From: AHS Laboratory Services

Re: New Reference and Therapeutic Ranges for Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (APTT)

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- The reference range and unfractionated heparin therapeutic range for Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (APTT) testing will be adjusted as a result of the implementation of new instrumentation.
- Changes will affect the following hospitals and community healthcare centres (CHC):

Locations		
Beaverlodge Municipal Hospital	Grande Cache CHC	Peace River CHC
Central Peace HC - Spirit River	Grimshaw/Berwyn CHC	Sacred Heart CHC - McLennan
Fairview Health Complex	High Prairie Health Complex	Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Grande Prairie
Manning CHC	Valleyview Health Centre	

Why this is important:

- Using the correct reference and therapeutic ranges is required for effective diagnosis and treatment of patients.
- The reference range information will be indicated on the report along with patient sample value.

Action Required:

- Please refer to the following ranges for reference and therapeutic values:

APTT Reference Range	
(New) effective October 12, 2016	24 - 32 seconds
Previous	22 - 30 seconds
APTT Therapeutic Range	
(New) effective October 12, 2016	55 - 95 seconds
Previous	55 - 80 seconds

- As the new instruments are implemented these ranges will be reflected on the lab patient reports.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. Mireille M. Kattar, Regional Pathologist at 780-407-3373 or by email at: mireille.kattar@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Deputy Zone Clinical Department Head, Diagnostic Health - Laboratory & Pathology, North Zone