

Date: September 19, 2013

To: North Zone (Former Peace Country Health Region)
Physicians, Nurse Managers, Educators and Practitioners, Laboratory Directors and Managers

From: AHS Laboratory Services

Re: Standardization of Critical Values for Magnesium and Iron

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Critical Values for Magnesium and Iron are being standardized provincially.
- **Effective September 25, 2013**, the following adjustment to ranges will be made:

Chemistry Analytes:

Analyte	Age/Other	Critical Values		Units	This applies to the following labs:
		Less than	Greater than		
Magnesium		<0.40	>1.90	mmol/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grande Prairie (QE II Hospital) • Fairview Health Complex • Beaverlodge Municipal Hospital • Central Peace Health Complex, Spirit River • Grande Cache Community Health Complex • High Prairie Health Complex • Manning Community Health Centre • Peace River Community Health Centre • Sacred Heart Community Health Centre, McLennan • Valleyview Health Centre
Iron	<12		>54	µmol/L	

Why this is important:

- The standardization of Critical Values will provide consistency as to the levels at which physicians are notified of a Critical Result.

Action Required:

- Awareness of new critical notification values.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, AHS Laboratory Services, at: 403-343-4723 or by email at: james.wesenberg@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, AHS Laboratory Services