

**Date:** January 30, 2014

**To:** North Zone – Former Aspen Region  
Physicians, Nurse Managers, Educators and Practitioners, Laboratory Managers and Supervisors

**From:** AHS Laboratory Services - North Zone

**Re:** Transition to QuickVue One-Step Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG) Urine Pregnancy Test Kit

## PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

### Key Messages:

- Effective **February 5, 2014**, several **Hospital** laboratories in the former Aspen Region will be switching from the current QuickVue One-Step hCG **Combo** (serum/urine) qualitative pregnancy test kit to the QuickVue One-Step hCG **Urine** qualitative pregnancy test kit. This transition is due to recent provincial contract standardization.
- A positive concentration cutoff (25 IU/mL) will be used for the **urine only** test kit. This is a minor change from the current combo test kit (20 IU/mL).
- Specific gravity is performed and reported on urines with negative hCG results.
- **Nursing units** will order the hCG pregnancy test kits from their local CPSM (hospital stores). A new procedure and the manufacturer's quick reference "Procedure Card" will be provided with the first kit.

### Hospital laboratories switching to the QuickVue One-Step hCG Urine Test Kit include:

Athabasca HCC	Elk Point HCC	St. Therese HCC – St. Paul
Barrhead HCC	George MacDougall HCC- Smoky Lake	Swan Hills HCC
Bonnyville HCC	Hinton HCC	Wabasca-Desmarais HCC
Boyle HCC	Mayerthorpe HCC	Westlock HCC
Cold Lake HCC	Seton Healthcare Centre - Jasper	Whitecourt HCC
Edson HCC	Slave Lake HCC	William J.Cadzow HCC - Lac La Biche

### Action Required:

- Review the QuickVue One-Step hCG Urine Test Kit procedure. Some important changes to the urine only test kit include:
  - Test cassette requires only three drops of urine
  - Test cassette has only one read window and one sample port
  - A valid result is indicated by a blue horizontal line in the C (Control) area of the read window
  - A positive result is indicated by a pink-to-red Test (T) Line along with a blue Control (C) Line
  - A new positive concentration cutoff (25 IU/mL)
- Please continue to use the former kits and procedure until the stock is exhausted.

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Carolyn O'Hara, MD, FRCPC at: 780-407-3477 or email: [Carolyn.OHara@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Carolyn.OHara@albertahealthservices.ca)

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

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