

Date: March 10, 2016
To: Central Zone: Physicians, Nurses and Laboratories
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: Onsite Testing Changes for Lipid Panel and Digoxin

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Onsite testing for the lipid panel (total cholesterol, triglyceride, low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) and high density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C)) and for digoxin testing will be discontinued effective 16 or 29 March, 2016 at the following Central Zone sites:

Sites discontinued 16 March 2016	Sites discontinued 29 March 2016
• Drayton Valley Hospital & Care Centre	• Innisfail Health Centre
• Hanna Health Centre	• Olds Hospital & Care Centre
• Lacombe Hospital & Care Centre	• Rimbey Hospital & Care Centre
• Ponoka Hospital & Care Centre	• Sundre Hospital & Care Centre
• Rocky Mountain House Health Centre	• Three Hills Health Centre
• Stettler Hospital & Care Centre	• Vermilion Health Centre

Why this is important:

- HDL-C, as part of the lipid panel, and digoxin are tests that require additional technical and analytical troubleshooting time to ensure quality results. Centralizing the testing to fewer sites will improve our ability to report quality laboratory results.

Action Required:

- There are no ordering changes. Local laboratories will make onsite changes for sample handling and sending.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. Allison Venner, Clinical Biochemist, Central Zone at 587-876-4536 or allison.venner@ahs.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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