



Date: September 21, 2020
To: Medicine Hat and Area Physicians and Nursing Staff
Medicine Hat and Area Laboratory Staff
From: Alberta Precision Laboratories – Medicine Hat Regional Hospital and Area
Re: Ordering of Manual Differentials

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- Effective September 28, 2020 the additional request for a manual differential will no longer be accepted on any pre-existing or new CBC orders.
- A manual differential is performed if the testing outcome meets criteria, or a specific practice is already deemed part of our current protocol.

Why this is important:

- Complete blood counts at Medicine Hat Regional Hospital and area are analyzed on hematology cell counters with automated differential capabilities. We follow internationally accepted standards and perform a smear review or manual differential count in response to flagging alerts from the analyzer. There is no longer any need to request a manual differential.

Action Required:

- No further action is required.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. S Paulson, Pathologist, by phone: 403-528-8149 or vial e-mail
- Paulette Both, MLT II, Hematology Dpt. MHRH, by phone: 403-502-8648 EXT 1276 or via e-mail
- Keith Kirkland, Director, Rural Labs, South Sector, APL, by phone : 403-343-4841 or via e-mail

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Julio Silva, MD, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief, Medicine Hat Regional Hospital
- Tamara Trotter, Director, Urban Hospitals South Sector