

**Date:** May 6, 2014

**To:** South Zone:  
Laboratories and Collection Sites, Physicians, and NUM's

**From:** South Zone Transfusion Medicine Departments (Medicine Hat and Chinook Regional)

**Re:** Pre-transfusion Sample Collection for Crossmatch and Type and Screen

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## Key Messages

- Laboratories in the South Zone will be collecting pre-transfusion Crossmatch and Type and Screen samples for all preoperative patients in the South Zone and forwarding samples to the appropriate testing facility, Chinook Regional Hospital or Medicine Hat Regional Hospital, where surgery has been scheduled.
- Currently, patients who require crossmatched blood for preoperative purposes must make a special trip to Medicine Hat or Lethbridge (depending on which location surgery has been scheduled) to have their pre-transfusion samples collected, otherwise they must have their samples collected the day of surgery which may result in delay of available crossmatched blood.
- Effective date: May 8, 2014.

## Why this is important:

- The Transfusion Medicine departments in South Zone are investigating options to better serve their out of town preoperative patients.
- Process currently exists for pre-transfusion sample collection for preoperative patients having surgery in Calgary.

## Action Required:

- **Laboratory request forms must clearly indicate location and Date and Time of surgery so that samples can be forwarded to the correct testing location Chinook Regional Hospital or Medicine Hat Regional Hospital.**

## Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Cathy Davies, Tech III, Hematology/Transfusion Medicine 403-388-6106
- Renee Tatro, Tech II, Hematology/Transfusion Medicine 403-502-8648 ext. 1276#

## This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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