

Date: December 15, 2016
To: Crescent Heights Medical Clinic, Carry Drive Medical Clinic, Jacaranda Medical Clinic
From: AHS Laboratory Services - South Zone – Medicine Hat Regional Hospital Laboratory
Re: South Zone East Laboratory Expansion – Microbiology Sample Drop Off

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- **South Zone East Laboratory Expansion has commenced. Microbiology testing is transitioning from Medicine Hat Diagnostic Laboratory (MHDL) to Medicine Hat Regional Hospital (MHRH). The MHDL couriers will continue to pick up as per your regular schedule. Samples collected on Saturday (after your courier pickup), Sundays and holidays should be dropped off at Medicine Hat Regional Hospital Laboratory 3rd floor MHRH Accessioning Dept.**

Why this is important:

- Samples should be stored and transported to the lab within the time frame recommended by the Lab Guide.
- MHDL couriers will continue to pick up samples as per the MHDL schedule Monday to Saturday. AHS couriers will not be available on Sundays and holidays post Microbiology transition.
- Samples collected Saturday (after the last courier pickup), Sundays and holidays should be dropped off at MHRH Laboratory 3rd floor Accessioning Department.

Action Required:

- Drop patient samples, collected on Saturdays (after your last courier pick up), Sundays and holidays, at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital 3rd floor Laboratory Accessioning Dept.
- Park in the loading zone location near the Laundry door on the west side of the hospital. Drop off samples and requisitions at the laboratory on the 3rd floor.

Rationale:

Microbiology testing is transitioning from the Medicine Hat Diagnostic Laboratory (MHDL) to the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital (MHRH) laboratory. It is important that patient samples arrive at the laboratory in a timely manner to maintain the integrity of the sample.

Effective Date:

December 16, 2016

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Medicine Hat Regional Hospital Laboratory Client Services (403) 529-8919
- Michele Claypool Tech II, MHRH Microbiology michele.claypool@ahs.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Dr. Michael O'Connor, (Designate) AHS Zone Clinical Department Head (Co-Lead) Laboratory Medicine, South Zone
- Dorothy Ward, South Zone Laboratory Director

South Zone East Laboratory Expansion Physician Information:

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/zones/page11683.aspx>