

**Date:** December 7, 2016  
**To:** SZE All Physician/Physician Offices  
**From:** AHS Laboratory Services - South Zone – Medicine Hat Regional Hospital Laboratory  
**Re:** South Zone East Laboratory Expansion – Microbiology Semen for Fertility Screening

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**PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE**

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**Key Messages:**

- **Effective December 19, 2016, Semen for Fertility-Initial Screening will be discontinued at Medicine Hat Diagnostic Laboratory (MHDL) and will transition to Medicine Hat Regional Hospital Laboratory (MHRH) as part of the South Zone East Laboratory Expansion. This testing in South Zone East will commence on January 3, 2017 as a booked appointment test.**

**Why this is important:**

- Semen for Fertility-Initial Screening in South Zone East will be discontinued at MHDL starting Dec. 19, 2016 and will be transitioned to MHRH.
- Patients in South Zone East will book appointments for this test through MHRH client services 403-529-8919. These appointments can be booked now and testing will commence on January 3, 2017.
- Information/questions should be directed to the appropriate site.
- More test specific information will follow in the next few weeks.

**Action Required:**

- Instruct patients to book appointments for Semen for Fertility-Initial Screening through MHRH client services at 403-529-8919.
- Continue to use the Medicine Hat Diagnostic Laboratory Requisition for ordering collection supplies
- Contact patients with outstanding requisitions and have them book an appointment if the testing will be done December 19, 2016 or later.

**Rationale:**

Microbiology testing is transitioning from the Medicine Hat Diagnostic Laboratory (MHDL) to the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital (MHRH) laboratory. Semen for Fertility-Initial Screening samples will be booked at MHRH starting December 19, 2016 and processed starting January 3, 2017.

**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](mailto:michele.claypool@ahs.ca)

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

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

**South Zone East Laboratory Expansion Physician Information:**

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