

Date: April 24, 2014

To: Edmonton Zone
Physicians, Nurse Managers and Educators, Laboratory Directors and Managers

From: AHS Laboratory Services

Re: Standardization of Critical Values for Digoxin

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Critical Values for Chemistry and Hematology will be standardized across all laboratories either provincially or by Zone.
- Due to the magnitude of this initiative, standardization will be staggered and not done all at one time.
- The most recent change has occurred for Digoxin levels in the Edmonton zone.

Analyte Changed:

- Critical high Digoxin previous range was >3.0 nmol/L.
- New Critical high Digoxin range is >2.6 nmol/L

Why this is important:

- The standardization of Critical Values will provide consistency as to the levels at which physicians are notified of a Critical Result.

Action Required:

- The Laboratory will adjust, as required, the levels at which physicians are notified of a Critical Result as the standardized Critical Values are implemented.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, AHS Laboratory Services, at: 403-343-4723 or by email at: james.wesenberg@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, AHS Laboratory Services
Dr. Raymond Lai, Medical Director, DynaLIFE_{Dx}