

**Date:** June 3, 2019  
**To:** All Calgary Zone Physicians and Healthcare Providers, and APL Clinical Biochemists, Directors, Managers and Supervisors  
**From:** Alberta Public Laboratories (APL)  
**Re:** Standardizing Point of Care Urinalysis Test Strips in the Calgary Zone

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

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**Key Message:**

- Effective **July 3 2019**, Calgary Zone Point of Care Testing (POCT) will provide support for only Siemens Multistix® 8 SG (Oracle # 326824) urinalysis test strips for manual urine testing. The following products will be removed from the Calgary East Lake Warehouse and will no longer be available for order in any Calgary zone AHS facility:
  - Roche® Chemstrip 10 Urine test strips (Oracle # 184771)
  - Roche® Chemstrip 5SG Urine test strips (Oracle # 330863)
  - Siemens Multistix® 10SG (Oracle # 277383)
- Over the coming months, the POCT department will be working with each Calgary zone facility performing manual urine testing to implement a Quality Assurance (QA) program.

**Why this is Important:**

- This change will support alignment of all POCT urinalysis in the Calgary Zone to the same urinalysis test strip and allow for better quality management of the product.

**Background:**

- A single unified QA program for POCT manual urinalysis is necessary for compliance with the accreditation standards of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA).

**Action Required:**

- Be aware of your current product and alert staff to the changes, if applicable.
- Current supplies of the discontinued products should be used and will be replaced with the Multistix 8 SG product once finished.

**Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:**

- Allison Venner, PhD, Provincial POCT Medical Lead, 403-770-3566, [Allison.Venner@albertapubliclabs.ca](mailto:Allison.Venner@albertapubliclabs.ca)
- Carie Jackson, MLT, POCT Technologist, 403-956-1434, [Carie.Jackson@albertapubliclabs.ca](mailto:Carie.Jackson@albertapubliclabs.ca)

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

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