

Date: January 7, 2013
To: Brooks Health Center Laboratory, Physician, Admitting Department
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: Laboratory Outpatient Service in Brooks - January 7, 2013 to January 8, 2013

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

Out patient laboratory services may be delayed or unavailable for the next 24-48 hours, effective immediately.

- Due to an outbreak of a Gastrointestinal Illness in several laboratory staff, there are very limited staffing resources available for the next 48 hours.
- Patients with non-urgent or routine orders are encouraged to come back in 24-48 hours when staffing levels have returned to normal and the risk of transmission to patients is reduced.
- Urgent and time sensitive test requests will still be processed.
- Contact Helen Monteith, South Zone Rural Laboratory Laboratory Manager at 403-388-6287 or staff at the Brooks Health Center laboratory at 403-501-3230 for inquires.

Why this is important:

- Staffing levels need to be maintained for urgent and inpatient services, and if they are further reduced we may be required to close outpatient services for a short period of time.

Action Required:

- Please defer routine outpatient collections for the next 48 hours.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Helen Monteith at: 403-388-6287

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dorothy Ward, South Zone Laboratory Director

Dr M. O'Connor, Zone Clinical Department Head (Co-Lead), Laboratory Medicine, South Zone