



Date: March 9, 2020
To: All Clinical Staff North Sector – Edmonton, North and Central Zones
From: Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
Re: Test Panels for Urine Toxicology Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- The Edmonton Toxicology Laboratory added two new drug testing panels to its testing menu at the beginning of 2019. However, due to the recent release of the new Community Requisition it was important to revisit the ordering of Toxicology Testing.

For Toxicology Testing **order only one** of the following panels. **Do not order both.**

- **Urine Opioid Dependency Panel**
 - To be requested on those patients on opioid agonist therapy (eg. buprenorphine, methadone).
Note: In the past these patients were referred to as being part of a methadone maintenance treatment program. However, with more treatment regimens available, this patient group is now referred to as being on opioid agonist therapy
 - Check off treatment regimen. **These are NOT individual drug orders.**
- **Urine General Toxicology Panel**
 - Order on all other patient types (eg. pain management, general addiction, psychiatry)

The new test panels replaced several of the previous drug testing options. For drugs included in the new testing panels please refer to: <http://www.ahsweb.ca/lab/ToxicologyDrugTestingPanel>

Why this is important:

- In March 2019, a revised print version of the Edmonton Zone Routine Requisition became available for use. A print version of the revised requisition is available through DATA group (Form CH-0021). An electronic version is available at <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-ch-0021.pdf>
- In November 2019, a revised DynaLIFE Routine Requisition became available. An electronic version is available at <https://www.dynalife.ca/Requisitions>
- Information regarding these drug testing panels can be found at <http://www.ahsweb.ca/lab/ToxicologyDrugTestingPanel>
- Sample collection/transport requirements are not impacted by this change.
- Sample routing/referral is not impacted by this change (eg. Samples previously routed to Alberta Centre for Toxicology (ACFT) would continue to be routed to ACFT).

Action Required:

- Clinicians should familiarize themselves with tests that are included in these two panels as per <http://www.ahsweb.ca/lab/ToxicologyDrugTestingPanel>. Testing for drugs not included in the panels should be requested under Other Tests Not Listed. Consultation with the Clinical Toxicologist is encouraged in these situations to determine test availability.

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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