

Date: March 30, 2015

To: South Zone East – Medicine Hat Regional Hospital
Physicians, Nursing, and Laboratory Staff

From: AHS Laboratory Services

Re: Urinalysis Changes

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Effective March 31, 2015 at 8:00 am the Laboratory will be implementing a new automated urinalysis system. This system has the ability to perform urine chemistry as well as a sediment analysis using similar technology to that of our CBC analyzers.
 - There will be no change to the way urinalysis is ordered.
 - This will only impact the reporting of results.

Why this is important:

- Due to the abilities of this new analyzer, some changes have been made to the results reported from urinalysis. These changes are as follows:
 - For urine Chemistry, we will now be reporting blood as mg/L. This will be accompanied by a grading for comparison, for example: 2.0mg/L (2+)
 - The analysis of the urine sediment allows us to provide you with a quantitative result for erythrocytes, leukocytes, epithelial cells, hyaline casts, and bacteria.
 - With this change, new reference ranges have been created for erythrocytes and leukocytes.

Test	New Reference Range	Equivalent to...
Erythrocytes (RBC)	<17/ μ L	0-3/hpf
Leukocytes (WBC)	<28/ μ L	0-5/hpf

Action Required:

- No change to the order entry of urinalysis; continue to order as "UA"

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Erik Lane, Hematology/TM Technologist II, MHRH, 403-502-8648 ext 1276

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Dr. Michael O'Connor, Laboratory Medical Director, MHRH, 403-529-8867