

Date: December 13, 2016
To: North Zone - Physicians and Laboratory Staff, (former Peace Country Health)
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: Urine Magnesium Testing in the North Zone

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Effective December 16, 2016, urine magnesium testing will no longer be performed at QEII Hospital laboratory. Due to linearity limitations of our analyzers, we are no longer able to provide this testing.
- Serum magnesium testing will not be affected.
- Samples for urine magnesium testing will be sent to the University of Alberta Hospital (UAH) laboratory for analysis

Why this is important:

- Reference Interval used by UAH laboratory is 2.0 – 8.0 mmol/ 24 hr.
- Due to the change in testing sites, the turnaround times of this test will be impacted by approximately 24 – 48 hours.
- Urine magnesium results in the Meditech EMR will be resultated with “Sample referred out for testing. See Netcare and/or paper report”.
- Hardcopy report and electronic delivery of result to the physician office systems will be provided by the University of Alberta Hospital Laboratory.

Action Required:

- View urine magnesium results in Netcare or on paper report generated from the UAH laboratory.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Debbie Campbell, QE II Chemistry Tech III at 780-538-7415 or email debbie.campbell@ahs.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Deputy Zone Clinical Department Head, Diagnostic Health - Laboratory & Pathology, North Zone - AHS Laboratory Services