

Date: September 16, 2016
To: North Zone, Physicians, Nursing Staff, Laboratory Staff (former Peace Country Health Region)
From: AHS Laboratory Services, Laboratory Services
Re: Viewing Peripheral Blood Smear Results

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- As a result of a quality improvement initiative, results for peripheral blood smears will no longer appear under the PATHOLOGY panel in the Meditech EMR. They will now appear in the LABORATORY panel. This links the smear and CBC results.
- Results generated prior to this change will remain under the Pathology panel in the Meditech EMR.
- Results will continue to be available in Netcare under the Hematology Panel and in the paper copy that is distributed by DynaLife. The comment now states:

“Sample referred out for testing. See Netcare and/or paper report.”
- Once the recently recruited General Pathologist is on site in Grande Prairie, most of the smear results will be available in the Meditech EMR in the LABORATORY panel, as specimens will no longer need to be referred out to DynaLife.

Action Required:

To view results in EMR:

- Select the Hematology tab in the Laboratory panel and click the comment bubble to view results:

Specimen Collected 17 Jan 2016 11:03	
White Blood Count	3.4 x 10 ⁹ /L (4.6-10.6) L
Red Blood Count	4.39 x 10 ¹² /L (4.10-5.40)
Hemoglobin	115 g/L (120-160) L
Hematocrit	0.36 L/L (0.35-0.45)
Mean Corpuscular Volume	82 fL (80-98)
Platelet Count	166 x 10 ⁹ /L (160-400)
Blood Smear Pathologist Review	
: Sample referred out for testing. See Netcare and/or paper report.	
Platelet Estimate	NORMAL

Background and why this is important:

Standardization of all Meditech sites to report smears in the Lab module is important for training purposes, viewing and interpreting results, and appropriate utilization of IT resources.

Effective Date: September 26, 2016

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Linda Rathburn, Tech III, Hematology/Blood Bank at 780-538-7216 or Linda.Rathburn@albertahealthservices.ca
 Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Provincial Medical Director at 780-613-8839 or Carolyn.O'Hara@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Provincial Medical Director
 Dr. Kevin Worry, Medical Director, North Zone