

Date: October 26, 2011

To: Central Zone – Former David Thompson Health Region: All Laboratory Staff

From: AHS Laboratory Services – Central Zone

Re: Urinalysis Reporting Changes Effective November 1, 2011 at 9:00 am

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

To accommodate the new urinalysis system at the Red Deer Regional Hospital Laboratory, the following changes will be required for the reporting of urinalysis results by all laboratories as of **November 1, 2011 at 0900**.

1. Range changes for reporting **manual** microscopic results:

Test	Current	New	Test	Current	New	Test	Current	New
RBC	0 – 3	0 – 3	WBC	0 – 8	0 – 8	Casts	0 – 2	0 – 2
	4 – 15	4 – 15		8 – 15	9 – 15		0 – 8	3 – 8
	15 – 30	16 – 30		15 – 30	16 – 30		8 – 15	9 – 15
	30 – 50	31 – 50		30 – 50	31 – 50		15 – 30	16 – 30
	> 50	> 50		> 50	> 50		> 30	> 30
Crystals	0 – 5	0 – 5	Epithelial cells	0 – 5	0 – 5			
	5 – 10	6 – 10		5 – 10	6 – 10			
	> 10	> 10		> 10	> 10			

2. To collect CLPL units for all microscopic urines, the Lab staff must enter “**Negative**” in the WBC field if none are seen. Current practice of entering “**NP**” will not trigger a CLPL count.
3. For the manual resulting of urine colour, either perform an F9 lookup to select the desired colour or type the colour in full and in capital letters, e.g., YELLOW. Current practice of entering just the first letter of the colour name will not be functional.
4. The test code “MICUR” (microscopic, urine) will not be orderable outside of the laboratory. Specific requests for urine microscopy will require the physician to contact the Clinical Biochemist at 403-506-5633 or Pathologist on-call at 403-304-13511 for approval. If approved, laboratory staff will place the order and perform the test. Due to this change, the “4 hour rule” - a microscopic order will not reflex if a previous order has been placed on the same patient in the last 4 hours, will be removed from Meditech. Please notify Karen Ost if any of these changes cause problems at your site.

5. If “urinalysis” has been ordered in the region but the specimen is to be referred to Red Deer Regional Hospital for testing when it would normally have been performed on site, the region order will need to be TNP’d with the following comment added to the colour test code: “Referred to Red Deer for testing”. Then, call the Red Deer Laboratory at 403-343-4749 to indicate a urine specimen is being sent for urinalysis. On arrival in Red Deer, the laboratory will reorder the “urinalysis” and perform the test.
6. For a specimen requiring referral to Red Deer to have cast and/or crystal identification, perform the urinalysis on-site and enter “Referred to Red Deer for testing” in the result field for casts and/or crystals before verification. Then, call the Red Deer Laboratory at 403-343-4749 to indicate a urine specimen is being sent to have cast and/or crystal verification. On arrival in Red Deer, the laboratory will order “urinalysis” but report only the cast and/or crystal identification results.
7. A revised version of the Procedure will be issued in the near future.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Karen Ost, Tech II Chemistry, Red Deer, 403-356-4215 or Karen.Ost@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. James Wesenberg, AHS Medical / Scientific Director, Laboratory Services - Regional Centres and Rural