

Date: September 21, 2012

To: **Edmonton Zone:**
Nursing Educators, Nursing Managers, Pharmacy Services,
Edmonton Coordinating Council, DATA Group of Companies

From: AHS Laboratory Services

Re: Change in PTT Heparin Therapeutic Range Level Affecting Patient Care Orders

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

Due to a change in PTT reagent, the PTT heparin therapeutic range will be changed effective **0001hours, on Wednesday, October 10, 2012**. After this time, for all applicable sets of Patient Care Orders, a new label **dated October 2012** is to be attached in the “*PTT results in seconds*” section. The new PTT heparin therapeutic range for monitoring patients on full dose IV heparin therapy at all Edmonton Zone sites will be 75-105 seconds. The old labels, **dated May 2011**, should be destroyed effective 0001hours, October 10, 2012. Please use the following table to determine which labels to affix to their respective Patient Care Orders:

Usual Sites	Patient Care Order Forms	Old Label Discard	New Label effective October 10, 0001h						
UAH (University) CCI (Cross Cancer) SGH (Sturgeon)	Standard Continuous IV Heparin Anticoagulation Protocol, Adult Venous Thromboembolism (form #3830-13406).	U-13406A May 2011 Fluorescent Orange	U-13406A October 2012 White <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">PTT (results in seconds)</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">less than 50</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">50 - 74</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">75 - 105</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">106 - 135</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Greater than 135</td></tr> </table>	PTT (results in seconds)	less than 50	50 - 74	75 - 105	106 - 135	Greater than 135
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RAH (Royal Alex) NEC (North East H.C.) STO (Westview) DVH (Devon) LEH (Leduc) GRH (Glenrose) FSH (Ft. Saskatchewan) RED (Redwater) EEHC (East Edmonton Health Centre)	Venous Thromboembolism, Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) – Standard Continuous IV Heparin Anticoagulation Protocol and Nomogram (form CH-1399).								
UAH (University) for Cardiac Patients SGH (Sturgeon) for Cardiac Patients	Cardiology – Standard Continuous IV Heparin Anticoagulation Protocol (form U-03332)	U-03332A May 2011 Bright Pink	U-03332A October 2012 Fluorescent Chartreuse <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">PTT (results in seconds) CARDIOLOGY</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">less than 60</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">61 - 74</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">75 - 105</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">106 - 149</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Greater than 150</td></tr> </table>	PTT (results in seconds) CARDIOLOGY	less than 60	61 - 74	75 - 105	106 - 149	Greater than 150
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MIS (Misericordia) GNH (Grey Nuns)	Not Applicable – Covenant sites have a separate set of forms that do not employ labels. These sites will undergo the same PTT reagent and heparin therapeutic range change on the same date but will update their Patient Care Orders through a separate process.								

Note: It is possible that over time forms have made their way across sites in the Edmonton zone. What is most critical is that the correct form is paired with the correct label and that the labels used are changed over on the correct date.

Why this is important:

On **October 10, 2012 at 0001hours**, all patients receiving heparin as per the Patient Care Orders will require a new Patient Care Orders form **with the new label affixed** and the heparin infusion rate adjusted depending on the PTT result of blood drawn on or after October 10, 2012.

Action Required:

- An order for printing the new labels has been placed with Data Group. **The new labels may be ordered effective September 24, 2012.** I encourage you to order them as soon as possible, prior to the change, through the usual process with Data Group.

Please specify the order number and correct colour:

➤ U-13406A October 2012 (White)

OR

➤ U-03332A October 2012 (Fluorescent Chartreuse)

- Any patient care units using any of the above Patient Care Orders listed should ensure that an individual is designated in their program to **destroy the old labels effective 0001h, Oct. 10, 2012.** Please share this memo freely with individuals in your area.

Inquiries and feedback about the label process should be directed to:

Laboratory Client Services Coordinators - Cheryl Hetchler at 780-342-8250.

Pharmacy Questions or concerns should be directed to:

Deon Druteika, Clinical Practice Leader, Regional Pharmacy Services, Royal Alexandra Hospital at 780-735-4220.

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, AHS Medical / Scientific Director and ZCDH, Laboratory Services – Edmonton Zone