

Date: April 19, 2011

To: **AHS Edmonton Zone:**
Nursing Educators, Nursing Managers, Pharmacy Services, Edmonton Coordinating Committee, Lab Managers and Directors, DATA Group of Companies

From: **AHS Laboratory Services**
Dr. Art Szkotak, Division of Hematopathology, University of Alberta

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 Tuesday, May 17, 2011**. After this time, for all applicable sets of Patient Care Orders, a new label **dated May 2011** 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 65-95 seconds. The old labels, **dated December 2008**, should be destroyed effective 0001hours, May 17, 2011. 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 May 17, 0001h						
UAH (University) CCI (Cross Cancer) SGH (Sturgeon)	Standard Continuous IV Heparin Anticoagulation Protocol, Adult Venous Thromboembolism (form #3830-13406).	U-13406A December 2008 Bright Blue	<p style="text-align: center;">U-13406A May 2011 Fluorescent Orange</p> <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 45</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">45 – 64</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">65 – 95</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">96 – 125</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">greater than 125</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: left; font-size: small;">U-13406A May 2011</p>	PTT (results in seconds)	less than 45	45 – 64	65 – 95	96 – 125	greater than 125
PTT (results in seconds)									
less than 45									
45 – 64									
65 – 95									
96 – 125									
greater than 125									
RAH (Royal Alex) NEC (Northeast C.H.C.) STO (Westview) DVH (Devon) LEH (Leduc) GRH (Glenrose) FSH (Ft. Sask) RED (Redwater)	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 December 2008 Fluorescent Green	<p style="text-align: center;">U-03332A May 2011 Bright Pink</p> <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 45</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">45 – 64</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">65 – 95</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">96 – 125</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">greater than 125</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: left; font-size: small;">U-03332A May 2011</p>	PTT (results in seconds) CARDIOLOGY	less than 45	45 – 64	65 – 95	96 – 125	greater than 125
PTT (results in seconds) CARDIOLOGY									
less than 45									
45 – 64									
65 – 95									
96 – 125									
greater than 125									
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 **May 17, 2011 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 May 17, 2011.

Action Required:

- An order for printing the new labels has been placed with Data Group. **The new labels may be ordered effective April 25, 2011.** 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 May 2011 (Fluorescent Orange)

OR

➤ U-03332A May 2011 (Bright Pink)

- 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, May 17, 2011**. 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 - Barb Chiovelli at 780-342-8255 or 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. Robert Rennie, Edmonton Zone Clinical Department Head, Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, AHS