



Memorandum

Date: January 8, 2019
To: Calgary Zone Physicians, Rural Physician, CLS Laboratory Information Centre (LIC)
From: Debra Ellas, Manager, Client Services
Re: **Discontinuation of Faxing Positive Group A Streptococcal Throat Swab Results**

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- **Effective January 18, 2019**, CLS Laboratory Information Centre (LIC) will discontinue manual faxing of positive Group A Streptococcal (GAS) throat swab results to Calgary Zone Health Care Providers.
- Health Care Providers will continue to receive reports via the regular report distribution processes.
- This will align our service with provincial laboratory partners.

Importance/Impact:

- Results for GAS throat swab results can be found in Netcare.
- CLS LIC (403-770-3600) will release results for throat swabs directly to patients, guardians and Healthcare Providers upon request.

Background:

- A survey attached to 318 faxed results in November 2018 indicated that this process is not generally useful.

Inquiries may be directed to:

Debra Ellas, Deb.Ellas@cls.ab.ca
Shelley Relf, Shelley.Relf@cls.ab.ca

This memorandum has been reviewed and approved by:

Leland Baskin, MD, MS, FCAP, FAACC, VP Medical Operations, Deputy Medical Director, Calgary Laboratory Services
Ethan Flynn, MD, FRCPC, DABCC, FAACC, FCAP, Clinical Section Chief, General Pathology, Calgary Laboratory Services
Julie Carson, MD, FRCPC, Medical Microbiologist, Calgary Laboratory Services