



# Laboratory Bulletin

**Date:** August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**To:** All AHS Zones – Laboratory Directors, Managers, Supervisors, Physicians and Allied Health Care Professionals

**From:** All AHS Laboratory Services, Calgary Laboratory Services and DynaLIFE<sub>DX</sub> Diagnostic Laboratory Services

**Re:** Fetal Fibronectin Result Comment for Discontinuation of Testing

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## Key Messages:

- Starting August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016, all Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) test results will be reported with the following comment:

*"fFN will be discontinued in fall 2016. See Anderson et al, Post-Policy Implementation Review of Rapid Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) Testing for Preterm Labour in Alberta, JOGC, Online May 12, 2016.*

*Additional info: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page7451.aspx>."*

## Why this is important:

- A post-implementation evaluation completed by the Maternal Newborn Child & Youth Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) of the efficacy of cervical /vaginal fetal fibronectin (fFN) in the evaluation and treatment of threatened preterm labour in Alberta, concluded that fFN did not result in improved preterm labor prediction, management, care, outcome or cost savings.
- Discontinuation of Fetal Fibronectin testing will be implemented in October 2016.

## Action Required:

- Review of additional supporting information on management of preterm labour and the Practice Support Guideline- Clinical Assessment of 'At Risk' or Actual Preterm Labour for Triage Guideline may be found at: <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/7363.asp> or <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page7451.aspx>

## Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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## This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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