

Memorandum

Date: December 15, 2015

To: Lethbridge, Red Deer and Medicine Hat Pathologists and Physicians

From: Dr. Meer-Taher Shabani-Rad, Clinical Section Chief Hematopathology
Dr. Iwona Auer-Grzesiak

Re: **Flow Cytometry Leukemia/Lymphoma Peripheral Blood and Bone Marrow Testing Criteria**

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Key Messages:

Effective December 18, 2015, all requests for Flow Cytometry leukemia/lymphoma testing on peripheral blood and bone marrow samples should be screened by the referral laboratory according to the following testing criteria. Samples not meeting these criteria should not be sent for testing and will be cancelled by the department.

Importance/Impact:

PERIPHERAL BLOOD

Testing **only when at least one** of the following criteria are met from a current or CBC/DIFF/PBS result within the last 3 months:

- Lymphocytosis $> 3.0 \times 10^9/L$
- Monocytosis $> 1.0 \times 10^9/L$
- Thrombocytopenia $< 100 \times 10^9/L$
- Blasts present
- Flow Cytometry testing recommended by a pathologist from a previous Peripheral Blood Smear report.

BONE MARROW

Testing **is not recommended** and should be cancelled for the following disease investigations:

- Classic Hodgkin staging bone marrow
- Diffuse large B cell lymphoma (DLBCL) staging bone marrows (if PET scan available)
- Anemia (single cytopenia)
- Thrombocytopenia (single cytopenia)
- Rule out myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) if CBC does not show cytopenia in more than 1 lineage.
- Myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN)
 - Chronic myelogenous leukemia
 - Chronic neutrophil leukemia
 - Essential thrombocythemia
 - Chronic eosinophilic leukemia
 - Mastocytosis
 - Primary Myelofibrosis
 - Polycythemia vera
- Neuroblastoma

Action Required:

- Review specimen testing criteria prior to sending specimens to the Flow Cytometry department. Samples that do not meet the above criteria will not be tested.
- If a patient sample does not meet the above criteria but testing is still required, please contact the Flow Cytometry laboratory at 403-944-4771.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Dr. Meer-Taher Shabani-Rad at 403-944-4754
Dr. Iwona Auer-Grzesiak at 403-944-8225

This memorandum has been reviewed and approved by:

Leland Baskin, MD, FCAP, CLS Medical Director, VP Medical Operations