

Date: June 22, 2011

To: South Zone East – All Physicians

From: AHS Laboratory Services – Medicine Hat Regional Laboratory Blood Bank

Re: Cold Agglutinin Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- Effective May 16, 2011, Cold agglutinin testing was discontinued at Medicine Hat Regional Hospital

Why this is important:

- Previously, the Transfusion Medicine Department at Medicine Hat Regional Hospital performed cold agglutinin screens and titres.
- The decision has been made to discontinue cold agglutinin testing as more specific information can be derived from the Serum Protein Electrophoresis test for plasma cell dyscrasias and lymphoproliferative disorders or *Mycoplasma* serology test for *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*.

Action Required:

- Cold agglutinin testing will no longer be included on the Guide to Lab Services. Any cold agglutinin testing ordered will be resulted with a comment containing the above information.

For inquiries and feedback:

Please contact Jacquie Hess by telephone at 403-529-8830 ext 1232 or by email at Jacquie.Hess@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by
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