

Date: October 26, 2010
To: Physicians, Nursing Staff – Drayton Valley Hospital
From: Dr. James C. Wesenberg
Re: Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) specimens

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Cerebrospinal Fluid specimens are a very low volume request at Drayton Valley Hospital Laboratory. There have been no requests in the last year and prior to that only one (1) request is on record. This rare volume is not sufficient for the laboratory staff to sustain competence in providing results on this critical specimen.

The practice has been for the Drayton Valley Hospital to refer specimens for Microbiology and Chemistry testing (other than Glucose) to Red Deer. What this change means is that the Cell Count and Glucose will now be performed in Red Deer.

Effective immediately, CSF testing will be referred to Red Deer Regional Hospital Laboratory for processing. STAT transport of the specimens will facilitate as fast a turnaround time as possible.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

“This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by Dr. James Wesenberg”