

Date: May 25, 2011

To: South Zone – West
Physicians

From: **AHS Laboratory Services – South Zone (West)**
Dr. B. Popma, Medical Director SZ West Laboratory
Lisa Vandergouwe, Chinook Regional Hospital Site Manager
Judy Noss, South Zone - West Manager

Re: **LB-13-11 New Method For ESR Testing**

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

Effective June 1, 2011, South Zone - West laboratories will be implementing the Sediplast® ESR System. Comparison studies were performed against the current Westergren method and the results were similar with the greatest differences noted in patients with high ESRs.

The change to the Sediplast® ESR System also involves a change in the normal range. The new normal range is provided in the following chart:

Age:	Male	Female
Under 50 years	0-15 mm/hr	0-20 mm/hr
Over 50 years	0-20 mm/hr	0-30 mm/hr

Why this is important:

The Sediplast® ESR System is a completely closed system. It provides greater safety and convenience as well as reliable and reproducible test results.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Shelley Duncan, Hematology/Transfusion Medicine Tech III at 403-388-6061 or
Dr M. Jankunis at 403-388-6093

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by
Dr. B. Popma, Zone Clinical Dept. Head (Co-Lead) Laboratory South Zone