

Date: October 25, 2012
To: South Zone – West: Physicians, Nursing Units and Laboratories
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: D-Dimer Meditech Ordering Changes

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Key Messages:

Effective October 4, 2012, DDPE and DDDVT will be inactivated in Order Entry and Laboratory Meditech Modules. Associated queries related to evaluation criteria will be removed from the DD and DDQ mnemonics as well.

The Laboratory Request form has been updated as of June 2012. D-Dimer is available as DD or DDQ only.

Why this is important:

The D-Dimer test has been available under the following ordering mnemonics in Meditech:

- DDPE – Pulmonary Embolism
- DDDVT – Disseminated Vascular Thrombosis
- DD - Quantitative
- DDQ – Qualitative

Previously, the Chinook DVT-PE Committee had developed forms which incorporated Wells Criteria along with a diagnostic algorithm for submission with D-Dimer requests for Pulmonary Embolism and Disseminated Vascular Thrombosis (CRH form #1738 and #1739).

These changes will allow for a standard approach for D-Dimer testing. Physicians can evaluate D-Dimer results with criteria tools of their choice and proceed with follow-up as required.

Action Required:

DVT and PE forms are no longer required for lab testing for D-Dimer. Physician offices and Nursing Units may discard these forms.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Lisa Vandergouwe, Chinook Regional Hospital Site Lab Manager at 403-388-6065 or
Helen Monteith, Rural Lab Manager at 403-388-6287

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