

<b>DATE:</b>	10 November 2025
<b>TO:</b>	Healthcare professionals at Royal Alexandra, Grey Nuns, Misericordia, and Sturgeon Hospital
<b>FROM:</b>	Clinical Biochemistry, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Expansion of the Connect Care Orderable Urate Test for Cancer Patients on the Drug Rasburicase at Edmonton Hospital Sites</b>

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### Key Message

- Effective, Thursday November 13, 2025, the Connect Care orderable “Urate, (Rasburicase)” for cancer patients on the drug Rasburicase will be expanded to the following hospitals in the Edmonton Zone: Royal Alexandra, Grey Nuns, Misericordia, and Sturgeon.

### Background

- Rasburicase is a drug used to treat high levels of uric acid in the blood of cancer patients who are receiving therapy and have tumor lysis syndrome.
- Rasburicase can falsely lower uric acid levels in the sample and requires special sample collection and handling procedures to ensure urate results are accurate.
- Collection instructions are provided, and a separate label will print for a separate collection tube.
  - A separate tube is required when it is ordered with other chemistry tests (e.g., potassium), as it may not be suitable to collect the other tests in cold temperature.
- Previously, this orderable was only available at certain sites such as the University of Alberta Hospital and Cross Cancer Institute in the Edmonton Zone.

### Action Required

- For patients on the drug Rasburicase, “Urate, (Rasburicase)” should be ordered in Connect Care.
- Follow special collection and handling requirements:
  - The tube should be kept cold before and immediately after collection.
  - Keep the tube on ice and immediately deliver to the laboratory.
- Refer to the APL test directory for collection requirements of “[Urate, \(Rasburicase\)](#)”.
- Ensure preference lists and relevant order sets in Connect Care are updated.

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Dr. Josh Raizman, Clinical Biochemist, APL, [josh.raizman@aplabs.ca](mailto:josh.raizman@aplabs.ca), 780-718-2402

### This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Kareena Schnabl, Section Chief, Clinical Biochemistry, APL