

DATE:	19 January 2026
TO:	Oncologists, Province Wide
FROM:	Edmonton and Calgary Zone Immunohistochemistry Laboratory, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Claudin 18.2 Staining and Interpretation is now Available in Alberta

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Claudin 18.2 requests will now be stained and interpreted in Alberta.
- Claudin 18.2 IHC is the required companion diagnostic to aid in screening patients who may be eligible to receive Zolbetuximab.
- Samples must be formalin fixed. A 6-48 fixation time is most ideal for testing.
- Decalcified tissue and alternative fixatives have not been validated.

Background

- The Claudin 18.2 IHC biomarker has been clinically validated as a companion diagnostic test for Zolbetuximab in two phase III trials (SPOTLIGHT and GLOW) for gastric and gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma.

Action Required

- In Epic in the “Request for Additional testing for Pathology Sample” please select ‘**CLDN18-Zolbetuximab**’

Effective **January 15, 2026**

Questions/Concerns

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- *Edmonton:* Dr. Gilbert Bigras Gilbert.Bigras@albertaprecisionlabs.ca 780-432-8445

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

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