

<b>DATE:</b>	13 April 2026
<b>TO:</b>	All Zones: All Physicians, Nurses, Laboratory Services Staff
<b>FROM:</b>	Genetics & Genomics, South Sector
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Hard Stop Question for Fetal Tissue and Products of Conception Requiring Cytogenetic Analysis</b>

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## PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

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### Key Message

- A hard stop question in EPIC is now available on Surgical Pathology orders when fetal tissue or products of conception specimen sources are selected.
- A series of cascading questions guides the requesting physician in determining the appropriateness of testing and provides direction for the proper submission of these sample types to the appropriate Genetics laboratory.

### Background

- There have been instances in which genetic testing for products of conception (under 20 weeks of gestation) could not be performed because the specimens were inappropriately received in formalin.

### Action Required

- Order the appropriate genetic test as directed by the questions.
- Ensure that the appropriate genetic test is performed on the correct sample type, which is collected in the correct collection tube as directed by the hard stop and subsequent questions in EPIC.

**Effective      Immediately**

### Questions/Concerns

- G&G South Genetic Counsellors Tel: 403-955-3097
- Cytogenetics South (Calgary): Dr. Bob Argiropoulos, Lab Head, Cytogenetics South  
Email: [bob.argiropoulos@albertaprecisionlabs.ca](mailto:bob.argiropoulos@albertaprecisionlabs.ca) | Tel: 403-955-7864
- Inquiries related to Connect Care workflows can be directed to:  
Email: [CMIO-TrainingTeam@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:CMIO-TrainingTeam@albertahealthservices.ca)
- All other APL general lab inquiries: 1-877-868-6848

### Approved by

- Dr. Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetics & Genomics, APL
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim), APL