



Date: March 9, 2020
To: South Zone Physicians, Nursing Staff, Pharmacy Staff and Laboratory Staff, and Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) Rapid Response Laboratory (RRL) Staff
From: Clinical Biochemistry, South Sector, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
Re: Referral of Phenobarbital testing to Calgary

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- Effective **March 10, 2020**, Phenobarbital testing will no longer be performed at Chinook Regional Hospital in Lethbridge or Medicine Hat Regional Hospital.
- Testing will be referred to the ACH RRL in Calgary.
- Anticipated turnaround time is 24 hours.
- Results will be available in Netcare and Physician Office Systems (POS), and critical results will be communicated by phone.
- Critical results will be standardized with the rest of the province to $>190 \mu\text{mol/L}$.

Why this is Important:

- With the availability of newer alternatives for anticonvulsants, requests for phenobarbital testing in South Zone have decreased significantly.

Action Required:

- Order PHNORO for all phenobarbital testing. Refer to the South Zone Test Directory for Phenobarbital for instructions.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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