

SHA Laboratory Medicine Provincial Program Bulletin

Date: March 22, 2020

To: All Patients of Saskatchewan

From: Lenore Howey, Executive Director and Dr. Fergall Magee, Provincial Medical Director

Re: This notice describes the discontinuation of Routine testing and reduction of Laboratory Testing within the Province of Saskatchewan to a defined Limited Test menu for Stat and Urgent requests ONLY, with the exception of standing orders.

PLEASE POST AND DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Microbiology

All patients	Inpatients/ER only
COVID-19	Influenza A/B/RSV
Blood cultures	Lower Respiratory cultures
Cerebral Spinal Fluid	Urine cultures
Sterile site specimens (aspirates, tissues and intraoperative)	Deep wound cultures
Clostridium difficile	CPO (Carbapenemase Producing Organism) screening
Mycobacterium tuberculosis (rapid and culture)	
Transplant related testing	

Note: Testing will be batched for processing twice a week for the following tests:

- HIV serology
- Hepatitis B and C Serology
- HIV/HCV Viral Loads
- Prenatal serology screening
- Measles/Mumps serology & viral detection
- CSF PCR for HSV/VZV
- Syphilis Serology

Transfusion Medicine:

All prenatal testing (including Kleihauer-Betke testing) will be performed. Otherwise, only STAT and URGENT requests will be considered. Should there be a blood shortage, all requests will be reviewed for approval in accordance with the Saskatchewan Blood Contingency Plan.

Biochemistry:

Albumin	Ionized Calcium
Alkaline Phosphatase	Iron testing
ALT	Ketone (blood)
Ammonia	Lactate
AST	Lipase/Amylase
Bilirubin, Direct	Magnesium
Bilirubin, Total	Osmolality-blood and urine
Blood and Body Fluid Exposure	Phosphate
Blood Gas	Pregnancy Test – Urine and Blood
Calcium	Protein Electrophoresis
Catecholamines and metabolites	Protein, Total
CSF Biochemistry	Therapeutic/Transplant Drug monitoring
CK	Toxicology Screening (excluding Drug of Abuse confirmation)
Cortisol	Troponin
Creatinine	TSH
CRP	Urea
Electrolytes (Na, K, Cl, HCO ₃)	Uric Acid
Glucose (inclusive of 50/75G Pre-natal tolerance)	Urinalysis

NOTE: No interruption of service:

- prenatal, perinatal and neonatal testing
- newborn screening
- maternal serum screening
- metabolic testing

Hematology:

Complete Blood Count (CBC)	Malaria
D-Dimer	Sickle cell testing
Fibrinogen	All body fluid cell analysis
INR	Monotest
PTT	
Thrombin Time	

NOTE: Flow cytometry testing and Special Coagulation will be available by consult

Anatomical Pathology

Stat surgical pathology and cytology specimens will only be processed at this time, as designated by physicians on requisitions.

Cytogenetics - Only STAT and Urgent requests will be approved.

Immunodiagnosics- Only STAT and Urgent requests will be approved at this time.

HLA Transplant Testing – Services will continue on a STAT basis at this time