

Date: September 19, 2022

To: Saskatchewan Practitioners, SHA Laboratories

From: Regina Microbiology/Biochemistry Laboratory Services

Re: HTLV Antibody Testing – Change of Location in Regina

PLEASE POST AND DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- As of September 23, 2022, Human T-lymphotrophic virus (HTLV) antibody testing will be performed at the Roy Romanow Provincial Laboratory (RRPL).

Why this is important:

- Requests for HTLV antibody testing in Regina and Rural Saskatchewan are currently performed at the Regina General Hospital Core/Chemistry Laboratory. Reactive specimens are then sent to RRPL to be referred out of province for confirmatory testing.
- Movement of the test to RRPL will allow for direct sending of specimen for confirmatory testing immediately after a reactive result.
- Please note that HTLV antibody testing that is currently performed in Saskatoon will continue; if samples from your jurisdiction are currently performed in Saskatoon, please continue to follow that process.

Actions Required:

- HTLV antibody testing should now be ordered by writing “HTLV Ab” in the “Other Tests” section in the bottom left of the [RRPL Chemistry/Immunoserology requisition](#).
- STAT testing is available during regular RRPL business hours; 8:00am – 5:00pm. If STAT testing is required, please call the Regina Microbiologist on-call through RGH switchboard (306) 766-4444.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Microbiologist on-call: Regina/South 306-766-4444