

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Memorandum

To: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and Health Service Directors

From: Dr. Manal Elnenaei, Chief of Service, Clinical Chemistry
Randy Veinotte, Esoteric Manager
Cindy Andrews, Core Laboratory Manager

Date: December 1st, 2020

Subject: **Changes to the availability of Chemistry testing in Central Zone**

Effective Tuesday Dec 2, 2020 the Division of Clinical Chemistry will enact our business continuity planning due to an unprecedented increase in demand for services related to COVID-19 testing, which includes the following:

The following testing will be suspended.

- Urine drug screen Exception: Urine drug screens from the Methadone Program will be approved by Dr. Nassar on a case by case basis.

The following testing will have limited availability. Please request only if there is an urgent clinical need.

- Hemoglobin A1c
- Urinalysis

Note: Some specialty endocrine tests will have delayed turn-around-time. For urgent requests please contact Manal Elnenaei at 473 -5194.

For questions related to this change in service, please contact Cindy Andrews cindy.andrews@nshealth.ca or Randy Veinotte randy.veinotte@nshelath.ca