

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Memorandum

To: Physicians and Health Service Directors, Central Zone

From: Irene Sadek, Department Head CZ PLM

Anita Muise, Administrative Director CZ PLM

Date: December 16, 2021

Subject: **Suspension of some Laboratory Testing during COVID-19 Fourth Wave**

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (PLM) in Central Zone has enacted our business continuity planning due to the recent increase in demand for services related to COVID-19 testing. The following tests will be suspended until further notice:

- Hemoglobin A1C* – see exception below
- RBC Folate
- Fecal Occult Blood
- Urinalysis** – see exception below
- Antibody titres
- Cold agglutinins
- Thermal amplitudes
- Delay in non-urgent molecular testing reporting

Note: Separate memo distributed identifying suspension in some Microbiology testing

*Exception: Pregnant females and children 19 years and under. Indicate on the requisition: “DO NOT CANCEL HbA1c patient is pregnant” OR “DO NOT CANCEL HbA1c pediatric patient”, as relevant.

**Exception: patient requires a urinalysis due to an acute kidney condition, please indicate on the requisition: “DO NOT CANCEL urinalysis as the patient has an acute kidney condition”

We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your understanding and cooperation. **If there are circumstances that you believe require any of the above specimens to be processed please contact the Technical Manager or Division Head for the respective discipline.**