

## *Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Memorandum*

**To:** NSH Healthcare Providers and Health Service Directors

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### **Message: Changes to viral load testing for EBV**

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Effective May 7, 2023, the Central Zone Microbiology laboratory is transitioning to the Roche Cobas 6800 instrument for solid organ transplant and hematologic malignancy related viral load testing for EBV virus.

- There is no change to collection requirements. **One 4.0 mL EDTA tube is required.**
- For patients actively being monitored with EBV viral loads, retesting is recommended to re-establish a new baseline with the new method.
- Testing remains restricted to transplant related services and hematology.
- Testing may be considered to monitor for EBV related Post Transplant Lymphoproliferative disease in solid organ transplant recipients or reactivation of EBV following Allogeneic stem cell transplantation
- EBV viral load testing should not be used for diagnosis of acute mononucleosis

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jimmy MacDonald at 473-5528.