



Capital Health

MEMORANDUM

To: All CDHA Clinical Areas

From: Dr. J. Godfrey Heathcote
District Chief, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

Shauna Thompson
Administrative Director, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

Date: March 25, 2015

RE: **Cancelling STAT Lab Testing and Ordering Priority**

To ensure timely and consistent notification of cancellation of STAT laboratory tests, the ordering unit will be notified by phone and a report will be expedited to the appropriate printer.

As a reminder, please ensure the appropriate priority is assigned to requests for laboratory testing. In general the following outlines expected turn-around time for test results.

- **STAT** results available within one hour from time of collection.
STAT is intended for life-threatening situations where results are required for the provision of immediate and safe patient care
- **Urgent** results available within 3 hours.
Urgent requests are prioritized ahead of routine, but after STAT. Patients whose discharge from hospital is dependent upon a laboratory test result should have the test ordered as **Urgent**.
- **Routine** result available within 8 hours.

Please refer to the Capital Health website for those tests that fall outside of these expected turn-around times:
<http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/pathology-laboratory-medicine/laboratory-client-support-center/laboratory-test-result-turn-around>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shauna Thompson, Administrative Director at Shauna.Thompson@cdha.nshealth.ca or 473-6869.

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