



Memorandum

Division of Clinical Chemistry
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Mackenzie Building, Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre
5788 University Avenue
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 1V8
Tel: 902 473 6868 Fax 473 2123

To: All Physician Offices, Nursing Stations and Referring Laboratories

From: Dr. Bassam A. Nassar
Chief of Service, Division of Clinical Chemistry
Dr. Amy Lou
Clinical Biochemist
Mr. Randy Veinotte
Technical Manager, Esoteric Laboratory Services

Date: May 19, 2015

Subject: **Changes to Carbamazepine and Carbamazepine- 10,11-epoxide Testing**

Effective June 15, 2015, the Division of Clinical Chemistry at Nova Scotia Health Authority-Central Zone will discontinue reflex testing for Carbamazepine- 10,11 -epoxide (Carbamazepine metabolite) whenever Carbamazepine is ordered. Determination of the epoxide is of little clinical value in most patients. However, if the epoxide level is considered imperative to clinical decision making , the test should be specifically ordered.

Please contact Dr. Nassar at 902 473 2225 (e-mail: Bassam.Nassar@nshealth.ca) or Dr. Amy Lou, at 902 473 1528 (e-mail: Amy.lou@nshealth.ca) if you have any questions.

Thank you for your attention.

CC. Dr. J. Godfrey Heathcote
Ms. Shauna Thompson
Ms. Cindy Andrews
Ms. Faye Lively
Ms. Sandy Schlay