



Capital Health

Divisions of Clinical Chemistry and Hematopathology
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
MacKenzie Building
5788 University Avenue
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 1V8
Tel: 902 473 6868 Fax: 902 473 2123

MEMORANDUM

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL USERS OF CDHA LABORATORIES

To: Capital Health Clinics and Physicians
Nova Scotia District Laboratories

From: Dr. Manal Elnenaei, Dr. Amy Lou, Ms. Shauna Thompson, Ms. Roxanna Saulnier, Ms. Cindy Andrews, Mr. Eugene Smith, Dr. Irene Sadek, Dr. Bassam A. Nassar
Divisions of Clinical Chemistry and Hematopathology, Capital health

Date: March 28, 2014

RE: **Implementation of New Analyzers at Community-based Laboratories**

The Division of Clinical Chemistry in the Community-based Laboratories (Dartmouth General Hospital [DGH], Hants Community Hospital [HCH] and Cobequid Community Health Centre [CCHC]) will be replacing its present Chemistry analyzers (Beckman Coulter Inc.) for **routine blood and fluid chemistries and therapeutic drugs** with analyzers from Abbott Diagnostics (this does not include endocrine, immunology or microbiology testing). The implementation date for this will take place as follows:

- Dartmouth General Hospital: April 6, 2014
- Hants Community Hospital: April 14, 2014
- Cobequid Community Health Centre: April 23, 2014

Hence, please be alerted to the following:

- The QEII Health Sciences Centre (VGH and HI) will not be changing over yet to the new analyzers until June (a memorandum will be sent in advance) and will continue to provide the current services.
- **There are differences in the references ranges between the current and new analyzers for a number of assays**, and you will need to be vigilant to this, particularly when comparing results from the QEII HSC and the different Community-based sites during the transition period (DGH, HCH and CCHC). Please review the reference ranges stated in each report prior to making your clinical decisions.
- In the initial stages of this transition there may be some delays in the turn-around times of analysis, but every effort will be made to minimize the impact of this on patient care.

If you have any queries or concerns on this matter, please contact Dr. Elnenaei at 902 473 5194, Dr Lou at 902 473 1528, Dr. Nassar at 902 473 2225 or Dr. Sadek at 902 473 8471.

We thank you for your attention.

CC. Ms. Fran O'Brien, Dr. J. Godfrey Heathcote