



*Memorandum*

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To: **Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and Health Service Directors**

From: NSH Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Continuing Care

Date: February 16, 2021

Message: **In-home Blood Collection Service – Referral Form now on Med Access and Accuro**

In-home Blood Collection Service requests (made by a patient's physician or nurse practitioner) now initiate through the NSH Blood Collection Referral process, and **no longer use the NSH Continuing Care Referral process.**

Eligibility for this service are as follows:

- Patient must be 12 years old or older, **and**;
  - Housebound and unable to go out of the home; or
  - Not providing blood collection in the home would cause undue hardship to the patient. The hardship could be physical, medical, financial or other.

Note that requests must be for blood collection by venipuncture. All collections via lines, catheters, ports, etc. should continue to be sent to Continuing Care.

The new NSH In-Home Blood Collection Referral process requires:

- Patients meet the above eligibility criteria for in home collection,
- Submission of a completed [In-Home Blood Collection Referral form](#),
- **Submission of a completed laboratory requisition**,
- Indication on the laboratory requisition of the timeframe requested for testing,
- If recurrent collections are required, this must be indicated on the requisition.
- The form and requisition must be faxed together to the appropriate zone fax #
  - Western Zone: 902-527-2994
  - Northern Zone 902-752-1931
  - Eastern Zone: 902-567-7947
  - Central Zone: 902-422-0893

Note: **the In-Home Blood Collection Referral form is now available in both provincial Electronic Medical Record (EMRs) systems: Med Access and Accuro.**

Referred patients will be contacted by the local blood collection service to book an appointment for the in-home visit. Patients not eligible for in-home collection can access NSH outpatient blood collection by booking an appointment at their local blood collection clinic. Information on appointment booking, including online booking, is available at <http://www.nshealth.ca/blood-collection>.