



## Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

### ***Laboratory Services Changes for Eastern Shore Memorial, Musquodoboit Valley Memorial and Twin Oaks Memorial Hospitals***

#### **Types of laboratory testing**

Many routine tests are sent to the laboratory at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. These include thyroid tests, hormone tests and many more. Please note the following changes:

- Along with previously referred tests, the remainder of routine testing from Musquodoboit Valley Memorial Hospital, Eastern Shore Memorial Hospital and Twin Oaks Memorial Hospital will be sent to the QEII laboratory for testing.
- Oral Glucose Tolerance Testing will no longer be offered at Musquodoboit Valley Memorial Hospital, Eastern Shore Memorial Hospital and Twin Oaks Memorial Hospital. This test is ordered very rarely. If needed, it can be performed at another Capital Health blood collection site.
- The model of delivering laboratory services has changed/will change from on-site laboratory testing to testing at the point of care for the following facilities effective:

Eastern Shore – November 1, 2012

Musquodoboit Valley – December 20, 2012

Twin Oaks – April 1, 2013

There will be no overall changes in the availability of blood collection at the three sites. Results will be reported back to your doctor in the usual way. To ensure rapid and efficient delivery of specimens to the laboratory at the QEII Health Sciences Centre there will be minor changes to the hours of blood collection services.

#### **Hours of operation**

Effective 2 April 2013, Blood Collection Services hours at Twin Oaks Memorial Hospital, Musquodoboit Valley Memorial Hospital and Eastern Shore Memorial Hospital will be:

- At Twin Oaks, hours will be extended to 7 to 11 a.m. (from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.)
- At Musquodoboit Valley, hours will change to 7 to 11 a.m. (from 7 to 11:30 a.m.)
- At Eastern Shore, hours will change to 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. (from 8 to 11 a.m.)

#### **Testing in emergency departments**

Previously, testing was only available when the laboratory was open. This did not coincide with Emergency Department hours. Now when you visit the emergency department and need laboratory tests, a nurse will perform testing in the emergency department using portable devices. Results will be available right away to the doctors who provide care to you.

#### **Transportation of laboratory samples**

Another dedicated courier run to the QEII each day has been added to ensure your laboratory samples get processed efficiently.

#### **For more information**

If you have questions about laboratory services at Musquodoboit Valley Memorial Hospital, Eastern Shore Memorial Hospital and Twin Oaks Memorial Hospital, please contact:

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