

<b>DATE:</b>	2022 September 1
<b>TO:</b>	All Zones: Physicians, Nurses and Healthcare Practitioners, and all Laboratory Services Staff
<b>FROM:</b>	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) and DynaLIFE Medical Labs
<b>RE:</b>	Urinalysis Reagent Shortage: Limited Availability of Laboratory Urinalysis Testing

---

**PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE**

---

**Key Message**

- Constrained supply levels of urinalysis reagent used across Canada are now impacting community / outpatient testing throughout Alberta.
  - Scope of this issue has expanded from the select settings listed in the July 15, 2022 bulletin.
- Due to critically low supply, utilization controls are necessary for the foreseeable future.
- Only order laboratory urinalysis testing that is required for urgent management of the patient.
- Requests for routine urinalysis will not be performed. Patients may be asked to return at a later date for these collections, where possible.
- When supply levels stabilize (date unknown), additional communication will be released.

**Background**

- The main supplier of laboratory urinalysis reagent used in Alberta has indicated on-going product shortages nationally; resolution of the shortage is unknown at this time.
- Updates will be provided when the supply issues stabilize.

**Action Required**

- Limit laboratory urinalysis ordering for only **urgent** management of the patient.
- Please indicate “**Urgent**” on the requisition.
- Please postpone routine urinalysis testing that is for health monitoring, where clinically acceptable.

**Questions/ Concerns**

- Jessica Gifford, Clinical Biochemist, South Sector, APL (403) 770-3779, [Jessica.Gifford@aplabs.ca](mailto:Jessica.Gifford@aplabs.ca)
- Allison Venner, Clinical Biochemist, South Sector, APL (403) 770-3566, [Allison.Venner@aplabs.ca](mailto:Allison.Venner@aplabs.ca)
- DynaLIFE Clinical Chemists, 780-451-3702 ext. 3572, [clinical.chemists@dynamife.ca](mailto:clinical.chemists@dynamife.ca)

**Approved by**

- Paul Klonowski, MD, Associate Medical Director, South Sector, APL
- Michael Mengel, MD, Medical Director, North Sector, APL
- Erene Farag, Provincial Medical Director, DynaLIFE Medical Labs