



laboratory
reference
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Service Education Research

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Notice re: Laboratory Reference Centre (LRC) Core chemistry test results from the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program

To: LRC CLIENTS

From: Dr. Mark Crowther, Chief of Laboratory Medicine
Dr. Tony Chetty, Discipline Director of Chemistry
Duane Boychuk, Director of Operations HRLMP

Recently, it has come to our attention that some of the Core (routine) chemistry test results conducted in our labs at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton were incorrect. Although incorrect results occur at a low rate in all laboratories, we are concerned that our rate may have been higher than expected prior to our discovery of this issue.

We ask all our physician clients to watch for unusual results in their patients' chemistry tests. If you have concerns about results received we would ask that you speak with our Laboratory Reference Centre Coordinator, Barb Baltzer (baltzer@hhsc.ca) who will arrange for follow-up with either Dr. Chetty, Dr. Macri or other member of our Chemist team. Note, if requested, we will arrange for tests to be re-run. Physicians may also wish to look back at previous, unexpected results and consider re-testing in those cases.

We have been in the process of replacing our Core chemistry testing systems for the last 18 months, and, while we wait for that installation to be complete at the end of November, we are conducting a variety of interventions, including extra quality control and preventive maintenance procedures to ensure the highest quality practices are in place.

We appreciate your diligence and patience as we work to resolve this matter. Again, if you have any questions or concerns, we encourage you to contact the LRC Coordinator and she will locate Dr Chetty, Dr Macri or one of the biochemists for follow up.

For a list of LRC Core chemistry tests potentially impacted, see next page.

A Service of the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program

Core Chemistry Tests conducted by the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program

Acetaminophen	CKMB	LDH	TT3
AFP	CO2	LDL	UIBC
Albumin	Creatinine	LH	Urate
ALT	Creatinine - Neo	Lipase	Urea
Ammonia	CRP	Magnesium	Urine - Amylase
Amylase	Digoxin	Phenobarbitol	Urine - Calcium
AP	Estradiol	Phenytoin	Urine - Chloride
AST	Ethanol	PO4	Urine - Creatinine
B12	Ferritin	Potassium	Urine - CSF - Protein
Bilirubin, Direct	Folate	Progesterone	Urine - Ethanol
Bilirubin, Total	Fructosamine	Prolactin	Urine- Glucose
CA125	FSH	PSA, Free	Urine - Magnesium
CA15-3	FT3	PSA, Total	Urine - PO4
CA19-9	FT4	PTH	Urine - Potassium
Calcium	Gentamicin	Salicylate	Urine - Sodium
Carbamazepine	GGT	Sodium	Urine - Urate
CEA	Glucose	Theophyline	Urine - Urea
Chloride	HCG-Beta	Tobramycin	Valproic Acid
Cholesterol	HDL	Total Protein	Vancomycin
CK	Iron	Triglycerides	
	Lactates	Troponin	
		TSH	