

DATE:	17 April 2023
TO:	All Healthcare Professionals and Providers
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	First Trimester Prenatal Risk Assessment for Aneuploidy Screening – Launch 6 Testing Changes

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Key Message

- Effective with Connect Care Launch 6, there will be standardization by Zone for where the first trimester prenatal risk assessment bloodwork will be tested:
 - When it is collected in North and Edmonton Zone, it will be tested in Edmonton.
 - When it is collected in Calgary and South Zone, it will be tested in Calgary.
 - When it is collected in Central zone, the location of testing is determined by the first trimester prenatal risk assessment requisition the patient presents with at the collection site.
- Ordering providers **must** ensure that the correct requisition is used.

Background

- First trimester prenatal risk assessment for aneuploidy screening is performed in Calgary and Edmonton.
 - In Calgary, testing is performed by APL and reported by the Early Risk Assessment Program. The test is performed in combination with First Trimester Nuchal Translucency Ultrasound Screen provided by Maternal Fetal medicine, EFW Radiology.
 - In Edmonton, testing is performed and reported by APL. The test is performed with a First Trimester Nuchal Translucency Ultrasound performed by individuals certified by the Fetal Medicine Foundation (FMF) at specific hospital and community diagnostic imaging clinics in North, Edmonton, and Central Zone.
- In Central Zone, routing of samples for testing is determined by the requisition used. Results from samples tested in Calgary can only be incorporated into the First Trimester Risk Assessment if the First Trimester Nuchal Translucency Ultrasound is performed at EFW Radiology.

How this will impact you

- Be aware that if a patient presents with a requisition in
 - North and Edmonton Zone: all samples will be referred to Edmonton.
 - Calgary and South Zone: all samples will be referred to Calgary.
- Be aware that if a patient presents with a requisition in Central Zone, their sample will be referred to the testing location based on the requisition used.
 - In Central Zone, if a patient presents to a collection site with an incorrect requisition with respect to ultrasound location, testing will be delayed or cancelled.

Action Required

- Ensure that the correct requisition for first trimester prenatal risk assessment is used, and requisition specific instructions are followed.
- Refer to [APL test directory](#) for additional information.



Effective

- Immediately

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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