

CLIENT NOTICE:**CHANGE TO C- REACTIVE PROTEIN TESTING METHODOLOGY*****Due to reagent availability the implementation date has been revised***

Effective **April 4th, 2021** LifeLabs will introduce a new methodology for C- Reactive Protein (CRP) testing. The new method shows improved accuracy and precision across the CRP clinical range, including low concentrations used in cardiovascular disease assessment and high concentrations important for assessment of acute inflammation.

Expected changes:

- The currently offered two tests (high sensitivity i.e. CRP-hs and wide-range i.e. CRP-wr) will be replaced by a single CRP test, with utility in both cardiac and inflammation assessments. Clients will be able to order this test by indicating “CRP” on the OHIP requisition.
- Specimen collection requirements remain unchanged.
- Results are equivalent to the current method, as confirmed by LifeLabs validation, and individual patient results are not expected to change.
- Reference cutoff and result flagging are unchanged.
- There will be a minor change in the clinical reportable range from 0.3-300.0 mg/L to 0.6-350.0 mg/L.
- A new interpretive comment will be provided with all CRP test results to align with the current guidelines:
*“Test method: Roche Cobas CRP, suitable for cardiovascular disease assessment and detection of active inflammation.
CRP \geq 2.0 mg/L is a risk-enhancing factor for cardiovascular disease, as defined in the Guidelines of the American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology (JACC 2019; 74: e177).”*
- The interpretive comment for CRP test results \geq 5.0 mg/L is unchanged:
“CRP \geq 5.0 mg/L may be due to acute inflammation.”

For further information, please contact one of the LifeLabs clinical biochemists below, or LifeLabs Customer Care Centre at 1-877-849-3637.

We welcome your feedback!

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