
Date: March 11, 2021
To: All LifeLabs Clients
From: Dr. William Schreiber, Clinical Director of Chemistry BC
Re: Creatinine Reagent Lot Positive Bias

Update – March 11, 2021

A new creatinine reagent was started at all LifeLabs sites in BC on March 11, 2021. Early results indicate that creatinine values are now similar to values reported prior to November 25, 2020. The following comment is being added to all creatinine results:

“Creatinine values reported between November 25, 2020 and March 10, 2021 are an average of 8 umol/L higher than previous samples, and eGFR values are lower, due to reagent issues. A new reagent lot was started on March 11, 2021 and has corrected the problem.”

Health care providers may see a decrease in creatinine values and an increase in eGFR since the last time a patient was tested due to the change in reagent.

Overview

LifeLabs has recently become aware of a positive bias on the serum creatinine assay. Our investigation, both internally and with the test manufacturer, determined that the bias started with the creatinine reagent lot implemented across LifeLabs laboratory sites in BC on November 25, 2020. Test results for serum creatinine are an average of 8 umol/L higher with this reagent, and values for eGFR are lower.

A manufacturer production error affected multiple laboratories internationally. Due to unavailability of another reagent lot to correct the bias, LifeLabs is adding the following comment on all patient results to alert health care providers of this issue:

“A positive bias in creatinine values has been noted since November 25, 2020. Results are an average of 8 umol/L higher than in previous samples, and eGFR values are lower. Interpret results accordingly.”



We appreciate that this may have impacted your clinical care decisions, or referral patterns. We are working to rectify the issue and will be in touch as soon as we know when it has been resolved. For future updates, please check:

<https://www.lifelabs.com/news/notifications-alerts/?myProvince=bc>

If you have any further questions, please contact one of the following LifeLabs Medical Scientific staff:

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