

# Health Care Provider Bulletin

LifeLabs Service Updates starting November 27, 2023

## CHANGES TO ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA FOR COAGULATION SAMPLES – ASSESSING FOR HEMOLYSIS, ICTERUS, AND LIPEMIA INTERFERENCES

Dear Health Care Providers,

Effective November 27, 2023, LifeLabs Ontario will be performing automated sample interference check for hemolysis, icterus, and lipemia (HIL) for routine coagulation assays – **INR, PTT, Protein C, Free Protein S, Fibrinogen and DDimer**. Published data indicates that the automated interference check yields superior detection of preanalytical problems in comparison with the previous method of visual inspection.

The automated sample interference check is performed directly on the hemostasis analyzer and the extent of interference is used to determine if results are reportable. Thresholds vary according to the test being performed therefore **when interference is detected, some coagulation results may be reported while others may be rejected**. An explanatory comment will appear in the report if test results are not reportable due to interference.

For any questions, please contact LifeLabs Customer Care Center 1-877-849-3637.

Thank you,

**Hasan Ghaffar MD FRCPC**  
Discipline Head - Hematopathology  
Medical-Scientific Department - Ontario