

Inside Diagnostics Ontario

The Diagnostic Newsletter for Healthcare Providers

Contents Page

LifeLabs ON Holiday Hours	2
New Chemistry & Immunochemistry Analyzers - An Update	3
Cytology Is Going To Paris!	3
Changes to HPV Testing and Reporting	4

DECEMBER 2016

LifeLabs®



LifeLabs ON Holiday Hours

Please be advised of LifeLabs Patient Collection Centers (PSC) Holiday Hours:

Friday, December 23, 2016
Saturday, December 24, 2016

Sunday, December 25, 2016
Monday, December 26, 2016
Tuesday, December 27, 2016
Wednesday, December 28, 2016
Thursday, December 29, 2016
Friday, December 30, 2016
Saturday, December 31, 2016

Sunday, January 1, 2017
Monday, January 2, 2017
Tuesday, January 3, 2017

Open regular hours
All locations routinely open on Saturdays
will be closing at or by 12:00 noon

CLOSED

CLOSED

Open regular hours
Open regular hours
Open regular hours
Open regular hours

All locations routinely open on Saturdays
will be closing at or by 12:00 noon

CLOSED

CLOSED

Open regular hours

LifeLabs Genetics Holiday Hours:

The Genetics Lab will be CLOSED from December 24 - December 26 and from December 31 - January 2.

The Genetics Helpline reached at: **1 844 363 4357 (1 84 GENE HELP)** will have modified hours during the holiday period between December 26th and January 2nd. If customers have urgent inquiries please email: Ask.Genetics@LifeLabs.com. This email address will be monitored regularly during the holiday season.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our holiday hours of service or related questions, please contact us at: 1 844 363 4357 (1 84 GENE HELP) or Ask.Genetics@LifeLabs.com

Melisa Collection and Testing During the Holiday Season:

During Christmas and New Years' Day, there will be limited collection and testing for Melisa. Testing will be dependent if Patient is located in Ontario or Alberta. Please ensure patients are not scheduled for collection during the days listed below:

- Ontario December 20 and December 27, 2016
- Alberta December 20, 22, 27 and December 29, 2016

WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

New Chemistry And Immunochemistry Analyzers – An Update

As part of the continued integration of the LifeLabs and CML laboratories and standardization of lab methods and reporting, LifeLabs has introduced new instrumentation for routine Chemistry and Immunochemistry testing.

- Transition to the new line of instruments began in mid-August, 2016 and is occurring in phases across the province. Standardization of immunochemistry testing will be completed by the end of December 2016. Standardization of routine chemistry testing will be completed by the end of December 2016 at our two Toronto labs and, by summer 2017, for the remainder of the labs in Sudbury, Thunder Bay and Belleville.
- At the appropriate time, a message will appear on lab reports to indicate that the change has taken place.
- Due to this change in instrumentation, the reference intervals have been reviewed and will change for some tests. During the transition period, reference intervals will be removed from our on-line Test Information Directory (<http://www.lifelabs.com>).
- **Please refer to the reference intervals accompanying the patient report for result interpretation. A complete list of tests being converted is posted on our website.**

By Peter Catomeris PhD, FCACB
Clinical Biochemist

Cytology is going to Paris!

Each year Lifelabs reports close to 50,000 urine cytology specimens, supporting bladder cancer surveillance for patients in Ontario. Recently, a group of international experts collaborated on a new reporting system for urinary cytology. The Paris System, named for the city where the discussions took place, aims to standardize reporting of urinary cytology to guide clinical decision making.

- **Beginning December 1, 2016 all urinary cytology specimens reported by Lifelabs will use the Paris System.**
- **The diagnostic categories in this system of reporting focus on the detection of high grade urothelial carcinoma (HGUC).**

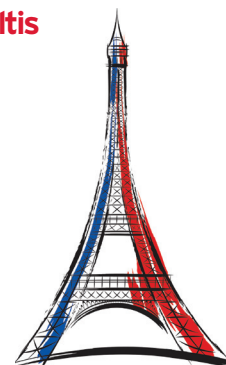
- Consensus criteria for suspicious and atypical categories also focus on urinary specimens which contain some of the features of HGUC but are not definitive for diagnosis.
 - Importantly, specimens with tissue clusters and changes associated with degeneration and viral effects will no longer be included in the atypical category.
 - The Paris System acknowledges the limitations in detecting low grade urothelial neoplasia on cytology, as these lesions lack significant nuclear atypia.
 - As always, clinicians should provide the clinical history and cystoscopic findings to the pathologist. Adoption of the Paris System should facilitate clear, concise cytology reports to guide patient management.
- For questions please contact:

CytoSeniorSupervisor@lifelabs.com.
You can also visit LifeLabs website: (<http://www.lifelabs.com> under Healthcare Providers News ON)

Suggested further reading:

The Paris System for Reporting Urinary Cytology: The Quest to Develop a Standardized Terminology. *Acta Cytol* 2016;60(3):185-97

By Timothy Feltis MD FRCPC
Ontario Medical Director



Changes To Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Testing And Reporting

Changes to Sample Collection for HPV Testing

- **Effective December 2016, LifeLabs will start offering HPV genotype PCR testing on the Roche Cobas®4800 instrument.**

- **The current Digene collection kit will be replaced with the BD SurePath collection container. HPV testing can be done on the same BD SurePath vial that is used for the Pap test.**

Changes to Testing Platform and Reporting

- High risk subtypes HPV16 and HPV18 as well as a group of other high risk subtypes will be identified.
- In addition, the test results for HPV will now be reported with the PAP smear findings in LifeLabs' Cytology reports. This will provide you with combined treatment recommendations for patients using HPV and PAP test results together.
- Recommendations for treatment using the combined results will be based on those from Cancer Care Ontario and the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology.

HPV testing is not currently funded by MOHLTC.

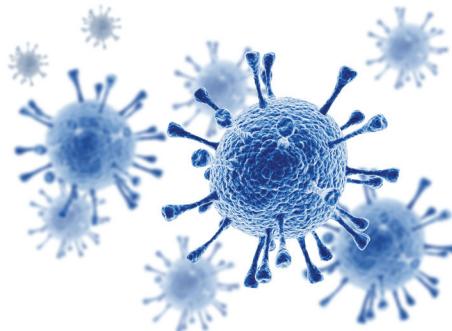
For more information please visit LifeLabs website: You can also visit LifeLabs website: (<http://www.lifelabs.com> under Healthcare Providers News ON)

References:

1. www.cancercare.on.ca/screenforlife
2. ASCCP Consensus Guidelines, Journal of Lower Genital Tract Disease, Volume 17, Number 5, 2013.
3. Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Canada (JOGC) Cervical Screening: A Guideline for Clinical Practice in Ontario (May 2012)

By Huda Almohri MD FRCPC
Deputy Ontario Medical Director
Discipline Head, Microbiology

By Timothy Feltis MD FRCPC
Ontario Medical Director
Discipline Head, Anatomic Pathology



LifeLabs and the LifeLabs logo are registered trademarks of LifeLabs LP. © LifeLabs 2015

For more information,
please visit our site at
www.lifelabs.com

Dr. Huda Almohri
Ontario Deputy Medical Director,
Discipline Head, Microbiology
416-675-4530 ext.42105
huda.almohri@lifelabs.com

Dr. Abdel Belhaj
Medical Microbiologist
416-675-4530 ext.42344
abdel.belhaj@lifelabs.com

Dr. Peter Catomeris
Laboratory Director, Discipline Head,
Chemistry
416-675-4530 ext.42029
peter.catomeris@lifelabs.com

Dr. Afaf Erfaei
Hematopathologist
416-675-4530 ext.42944
afaf.erfaei@lifelabs.com

Dr. Timothy Feltis
Ontario Medical Director,
Hematopathologist
416-675-4530 ext.42801
tim.feltis@lifelabs.com

Dr. Danijela Konforte
Clinical Biochemist
416-675-4530 ext.42208
daniela.konforte@lifelabs.com

Dr. Daniela Leto
Medical Microbiologist
905-565-0433 ext.42310
daniela.letto@lifelabs.com

Dr. Krystyna Ostrowska
Medical Microbiologist
416-675-4530 ext.42892
krystyna.ostrowska@lifelabs.com

Dr. Kika Veljkovic
Clinical Biochemist
416-675-4530 ext.42832
kika.veljkovic@lifelabs.com

Dr. Miranda Wozniak
Ontario Deputy Medical Director
Discipline Head, Hematology,
416-675-4530 ext.42040
miranda.wozniak@lifelabs.com