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Central Zone

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Memorandum

To: Physicians and Health Service Directors (Central Zone), Nova Scotia Physicians and Laboratories

From: Dr. Andrea Thoni, Medical Director Immunology
Ms. Beverly Twohig, Esoteric Laboratory Supervisor

Date: July 14, 2017

Subject: Change in Collection Requirements and Testing Methodology for C1 Inactivator Specimens (alternate name C1 Esterase Inhibitor)

Effective **September 5, 2017** all samples sent for C1 Inactivator testing must be collected in a 6ml Plain Red Tube (no serum separator).

C1 Inactivator testing will now be performed on the SPA Plus instrument using a turbidimetric methodology. The current radial immunodiffusion (RID) plate method will be phased out.

New reference range: 0.22-0.38 g/L (former reference range was 0.21-0.35 g/L).

For Provincial Laboratories please review the following processing requirements for all C1 Inactivator samples:

- Please ensure that the specimen is allowed to clot for 30 minutes before centrifuging and removing the serum. Double centrifugation is still required to prevent red blood cells being present in the specimen.
- Referral hospitals must send two aliquots of the double spun serum.
- Aliquots must be shipped frozen.

If further questions please contact Bev Twohig at 902-473-6668.