

## Memo to Central Zone Ambulatory Clinics and Family Physicians Expanded Hours for Booking CZ Blood Collection Appointments

Due to impacts on Central Zone (CZ) laboratory services related to the COVID-19 pandemic, a walk in same day clinic blood collection service can no longer be supported. An appointment will be required to ensure physical distancing.

Effective July 16th the CZ blood collection appointment booking hours have been expanded to help respond to the high volume of calls.

Please call:

902-473-2074 or 1-833-942-2298

Monday to Friday (excluding holidays): 7am to 11pm

Saturday: 7am to 3 pm.

Patients who require urgent collection must communicate the need at the time of booking.

Due to the increased demand and backlog in the system, we acknowledge that a patient may have to call multiple times to successfully book an appointment. We appreciate this is frustrating and not an optimal service. We thank you your cooperation and patience while we continue to implement changes to address the issues and make improvements in the appointment booking service.

For questions contact Trudy Handy at 902-473-6426 <a href="mailto:trudy.handy@nshealth.ca">trudy.handy@nshealth.ca</a>