

MEMORANDUM

Division of Clinical Chemistry
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Mackenzie Building, Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre
5788 University Avenue
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 1V8

Tel: 902 473 6868 Fax 473 2123

To: Capital Health Clinics and Physicians

Nova Scotia District Laboratories

From: Dr. Bassam Nassar

Chief of Service, Division of Clinical Chemistry

Shauna Thompson

Technical Manager, Division of Clinical Chemistry

Dr. Amy Lou

Clinical Biochemist, Division of Clinical Chemistry

Date: July 18, 2013

Subject: Prostate Specific Antigen Assay Using the Abbott Diagnostics System

A recent update from Siemens, our former vendor for total prostate specific antigen (tPSA) assay, confirms that the positive bias in the results of their tPSA test has been determined to approximate 20%. This lends support to the evaluation results of our newly implemented tPSA Abbott Diagnostics assay which were approximately 20% lower than those formerly produced by the Siemens assay, and hence confirms the accuracy of the Abbott assay now in place.

Additionally, following further discussions with our clinical colleagues, the lower limit of tPSA now reported will be $0.05 \mu g/L$.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Thank you for your attention.

CC. Ms. Fran O'Brien

Dr. Godfrey Heathcote

Ms. Sandy Schlay

Ms. Faye Lively