



# Physician Alert



## CHANGES TO BIOCHEMISTRY LAB REPORTS

### Effective Throughout May 2012

A more comprehensive approach to checking on the presence of hemolysis, lipemia and icterus in patient blood specimens and reporting on the effects of these on test results will be implemented at the Biochemistry labs at Seven Oaks, Concordia, Victoria, Grace and Misericordia hospitals/facility.

<b>HEMOLYSIS</b>	<b>Breakdown of red blood cells</b>	<b>Caused during collection</b>
<b>LIPEMIA</b>	<b>Lipid/fat in the blood</b>	<b>May be caused by TPN</b>
<b>ICTERUS</b>	<b>Bilirubin in the blood</b>	<b>May be clinically related</b>

- **Interpretative and cautionary comments will be reported for each test result affected** instead of a single comment on the lab report for a group of tests. These comments will indicate the degree of sample interferent (slight, moderate or gross) and its impact on the test result. This reporting format will generate more pages per patient report than previously generated.
- **For locations that do NOT** have immediate access to reports (EDIS, trickle print or auto fax) the lab will phone and fax the unit/ward if a recollection is required.
- **For locations that DO have** EDIS, trickle print or auto fax the lab will NOT phone the unit/ward to indicate that specimen recollection is required.
- The report must be read carefully to determine if recollection is necessary. It is not necessary to obtain a second order to repeat the test, however **another requisition must be sent.**

**More information: [www.dsmanitoba.ca/professionals/info.html](http://www.dsmanitoba.ca/professionals/info.html)**

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