

MEMO

Date: June 4, 2018

To: All test ordering Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and Extended Practice Nurses

From: Dr. Laurel Thorlacijs, Medical Director, Clinical Biochemistry
Dr. Abdi Sokoro, Lead Clinical Scientist & Clinical Biochemist
Dr. Curtis Oleschuk, Clinical Biochemist & Clinical Toxicologist

cc: Lab Services Directors & Charge Technologists, Shared Health, Diagnostic Services

Re: **Urine Drugs of Abuse, TSH, and Vitamin B12 in Emergency Department Samples**

Background

- Emergency Medicine, Mental Health and Shared Health, Clinical Biochemistry worked together to develop a policy for diagnostic testing of urine drugs of abuse, thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH), and Vitamin B12 in the setting of the emergency department (see attached document).
- This policy is evidence based and agreed upon by the departments of Emergency Medicine and Mental Health of all health regions.

Action

- Effective June 11, 2018, all test orders received from the Emergency department for urine drugs of abuse, TSH, and vitamin B12 will be treated as routine (non-stat). Transportation of such tests, if done at another site would be done on the next scheduled courier run.