Shared health Soins communs Manitoba

Diagnostic Services

MEMO

Date: June 4, 2026

To: All Ordering Physicians and Nurse Practitioners

From: Jason Warren, Technical Director, Immunology Shared Health
Dr. Ping Sun, Medical Director, Hematology & Immunology Shared Health

Re: **DIAGNOSTICS TEMPORARY SERVICE CHANGE**
Rheumatoid Factor Testing, Health Sciences Centre Immunology

Please be advised that Rheumatoid Factor (RF) testing is temporarily unavailable at the Health Sciences Centre Immunology Laboratory. This interruption is due to an issue affecting the test kit manufacturing process, which is currently outside of the laboratory's control and may extend into August 2026. As a result, we are unable to perform RF testing on-site at this time.

All samples submitted for Rheumatoid Factor testing, by a Rheumatologist, will be referred to an out-of-province reference laboratory. Turnaround times will be extended beyond the usual reporting timeframe. Results will be faxed as soon as they are received from the referral laboratory. For all other requests, you may consider anti-CCP (cyclic citrullinated peptide) antibody testing if clinically indicated.

There will be no change to specimen collection requirements at this time.

Please consider the extended turnaround time when ordering and managing patient care.
We are actively monitoring the situation and will notify all ordering providers as soon as on-site testing resumes.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause to your patients, physicians or staff.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Dr. Ping Sun, Hematopathologist, Medical Director, Hematology & Immunology Shared Health (phone: 204-787-4682) psun@sharedhealthmb.ca
- Jason Warren, Technical Director, Immunology Shared Health (phone: 204-471-0370) jwarren3@sharedhealthmb.ca