

## MEMORANDUM

To: All Newfoundland & Labrador Physicians & Nurse Practitioners  
Date: February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Re: Suspension of UDS by UDS42  
From: Mass Spectrometry Lab, Biochemistry Department, Laboratory Medicine, Eastern Health

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Dear Colleagues,

Effective immediately, testing for Urine Drug Screens done by UDS42 will be **permanently suspended** to allow transitioning to a new, and much broader, drug screen by early April. During the period of February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, only urgent requests for comprehensive urine drug screens will be approved for send-out.

All urine samples received after February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, will not be processed but rather a comment will go back on reports indicating that the test is unavailable, recommending completion of an LTSA form, and requesting rationale if an urgent comprehensive drug screen is required.

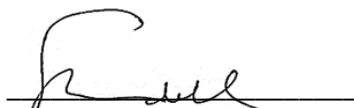
We apologize for any inconvenience that this may present.

The laboratory at the Health Sciences Centre is transitioning to a new Comprehensive Urine Drug Screening Panel. Unfortunately, the old (UDS42) and new urine drug testing panels cannot be maintained together. Considerable time is required to retrain staff and to make other preparations to introduce the new test. Furthermore, a recent equipment breakdown has led to the need to further suspend testing until repairs can be made. For these reasons, we have little choice but to temporarily suspend this test panel to free up resources to transition to the new and time parts to be shipped to the province to complete repairs.

A follow-up memo will be circulated in advance of launching the new drug testing panel (UDCS; a 55-drug panel) to notify you when testing can resume.

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindest Regards,



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