

MEMORANDUM

TO : Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Managers, Directors of Nursing
Clinical Instructors/Educators, PEI Hospital Laboratories, PEI Nursing Homes

FROM : Dr. Marvin Tesch
Interim Clinical Lead Biochemistry
Health PEI Provincial Laboratory Services

DATE : February 18, 2014

RE : **C-REACTIVE PROTEIN (CRP) NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL HEALTH PEI LABS**

As of Tuesday February 18th, 2014, Stat CRP analysis will be available at all Health PEI Laboratory sites including Community Hospital O'Leary, Western Hospital Alberton, Prince County Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings County Memorial Hospital, and Souris Hospital.

CRP Comment: Greater than 10 mg/L is consistent with acute phase response to inflammation.

CRP Specimen: Serum (Red/SST tube)

CRP is an acute phase protein whose concentration rises non-specifically in response to inflammation. When used to monitor inflammatory conditions, the result should decrease with appropriate treatment.

As per the memo of August 15, 2013: if ESR and CRP are requested together on adult patients, only the CRP will be performed. In exceptional circumstances (such as suspect Temporal Arteritis or Polymyalgia Rheumatic) concurrent CRP and ESR analysis may be indicated. Should this be the case please write "DO NOT CANCEL ESR" on the requisition. Within hospital, please contact your Hematology Laboratory directly.

Please note that the ESR is not available STAT.

Please direct any questions to me at 902-894-2302 or your local Health PEI Laboratory.

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