

Provincial Laboratory Services



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Health PEI
One Island Health System

Neonatal Cord Blood Testing

December 15, 2020

This information applies to: All QEH Pediatricians and Family Physicians

Effective Monday, January 11, 2021, to bring ourselves closer into alignment with recommendations from the Canadian Pediatric Society¹, the PEI Transfusion Service at the QEH will test neonatal cord blood samples as follows:

Clinical Circumstances	Analysis Performed
Baby born to mother whose ABO group / antibody screen results are unknown / unavailable	ABO/ Rh blood group DAT (Direct Coomb's)
Baby born to group O mother and/or Rh negative mother	ABO/Rh blood group
Baby born to mother with known clinically significant RBC antibodies	ABO blood group DAT (Direct Coomb's)
Upon request	As requested

Please continue to submit cord samples from all neonates to PEI Transfusion Services. Testing will be performed as outlined above. Whether or not testing is performed, all samples shall be retained for seven days. If additional testing is required, please call 894-2334 to request it.

For more information, contact:

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(902) 894-2535

¹ KJ Barrington et al. (2018, Feb 2018) Canadian Pediatric Society. *Guidelines for detection, management and prevention of hyperbilirubinemia in term and late preterm newborn infants*. Retrieved from <https://www.cps.ca/documents/position/hyperbilirubinemia-newborn>