

July 20, 2020

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

Change in Testing Laboratory from Microbiology to Hematology for Infectious Mononucleosis (Monospot) Samples at HSC and SBH

Date effective: July 27, 2020

Background Information:

Shared Health uses a qualitative, lateral flow immunoassay to detect Infectious Mononucleosis heterophile antibodies (Monospot) in whole blood, serum, or plasma to aid in the diagnosis of Infectious Mononucleosis.

Blood collected in red/grey tubes, gold or red top serum separator tubes, or lavender EDTA tubes are acceptable for testing.

Change in Test Procedure:

- Effective July 27, 2020, the HSC and SBH Hematology laboratories will assume responsibility for performing Infectious Mononucleosis (Monospot) testing.
- This change is required to standardize testing provincially.

Patient Impact:

- None.
- Turnaround times and reporting will not be affected.

Action Required:

- Effective July 27, 2020, please send all blood samples for Infectious Mononucleosis (Monospot) to MS5 Central Services - HSC or L3 Specimen Management - SBH.

Contact Information:

Dr. James Karlowsky, Medical Director, Clinical Microbiology, Shared Health, 204-237-2105, jkarlowsky@sharedhealthmb.ca

Joelle Carlson, Technical Director, Clinical Microbiology, Shared Health 204-237-2073, jcarlson@sharedhealthmb.ca

