Memorandum

Date: November 28, 2017
To: All Calgary and South Zone Physicians
From: Dr. Iwona Auer-Grzesiak, Pathologist, Flow Cytometry
Re: Discontinuation of Anti-Neutrophil and Anti-Platelet Antibody Testing by Flow Cytometry

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Key Messages:
- Effective December 5, 2017, anti-Neutrophil Antibody testing (NAB/NAIG) and anti-Platelet (PAB/PAIG) by Flow Cytometry will be discontinued.

Importance/Impact:
- Anti-Neutrophil Antibody testing (NAB/NAIG)
  - The practice of ordering anti-neutrophil antibody testing for the investigation of immune neutropenia in children is not recommended as it is not useful or helpful in establishing diagnosis, predicting outcomes or response to treatment.
- Anti-Platelet Antibody testing (PAB/PAIG)
  - Flow Cytometry detection of platelet associated antibodies is of little clinical or prognostic value in determining the etiology of thrombocytopenia. The International consensus report on the investigation and management of primary immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) identified platelet-associated antibody testing as having no proven role in differential diagnosis of ITP from other thrombocytopenias and does not guide patient management.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:
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This memorandum has been reviewed and approved by:
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References:
Is There a Role for Anti-Neutrophil Antibody Testing in Predicting Spontaneous Resolution of Neutropenia in Young Children
Laurence A. Boxer, Audrey Anna Bolyard, Tracy M. Marrero, Emily L. Tran, Mary Ann Bonilla, Peter E. Newburger and David C. Dale. Blood. 2015 126:2211 Abstract:

Anti-Neutrophil Antibodies Lead to Mistaken Identity in Severe Congenital Neutropenia
Laurence A. Boxer, Audrey Anna Bolyard, Beate Schwinzer, Darryl Glaser, Kenneth Dougan, Mary Ann Bonilla,
Blanche P. Alter, Bonnie Cham, Sally E. Kinsey, Connie Zeidler, Karl Welte and David C. Dale
Blood. 2005 106:385 Abstract:

International consensus report on the investigation and management of primary immune thrombocytopenia