

MEMO

Date: June 14, 2021

To: All Public Health Managers and Directors, All Public Health PHIMS Communicable Disease Investigation (CDI) Users

From: Dr. Carla Loeppky, Director, Epidemiology and Surveillance, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Care

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CC: Dr. Carol Kurbis, Medical Officer of Health, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living PHIMS Operation Support Team

Re: **Updates to the Lab Interface in PHIMS**

PHIMS Lab Interface Update - Variants of Concern

Cadham Provincial Lab and Dynacare Brampton are now sending Variant of Concern (VOC) screening and gene sequencing results to PHIMS via the electronic lab interface. This allows users to access VOC lab interface reports within the client's file in PHIMS. A QRC on how to [view received lab reports](#) is available on the PHIMS website.

Benefits

Previously, the Manitoba Health Surveillance Unit (MHSU) was manually entering the relevant screening and sequencing information into the Further Differentiation and WGS Pattern Epi Marker fields in the investigation. Now that these lab results are received electronically, the entire VOC screen and VOC sequence lab reports will be available on the Client's record. This will reduce manual processing and support standard entry/values in client records.

Receiving the reports electronically has a significant impact on workflow efficiency and data quality. MHSU was receiving a significant number of duplicate fax reports due to the way Dynacare Brampton processes the VOC screen and sequence fax results. This will be resolved with the receipt of the electronic messages.

Users of the Lab Results and Lab Workload reports: Please note that you will see an increased number of results on these reports since the VOC screen and sequencing lab reports are now being entered into PHIMS.

Received Reports:

Lab Gene Sequence View (Dynacare Brampton):

Result Details:

| | |
|---|--|
| Specimen Type / Site: Nasopharynx | Collection Date/Time: 2021 May 19 12:17 CDT |
| Specimen Description: Reason for Testing: TRAVEL -- Specimen Source: THROAT | |
| Test Name: SARS-CoV-2 Whole Genome Sequence Lineage | Test Category: General |
| Test Annotations: S gene mutations associated with SARS-CoV-2 P.1 variant of concern (VOC) confirmed by whole genome sequencing. This laboratory-developed investigational assay is intended for surveillance purposes and is not a clinical diagnostic test. Testing involves PCR followed by whole genome sequencing, including S gene receptor binding domain (RBD) analysis where key VOC mutations are located. A key S gene mutation in the B.1.1.7 variant that emerged in the UK (N501Y), several present in the B.1.351 variant emerged in the South African (K417N, E484K and N501Y), and several present in the P.1 variant that emerged in Brazil (K417T, E484K and N501Y) are screened for with this assay. | |
| Result Name: SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern | Sample ID: - |
| Result Status: Final | Result Date: 2021 May 20 |
| Result Value: - | Reference Range: - |
| Result Units: - | Range Type: - |
| Interpreted Result: VOC Detected | Range Description: - |
| Flag: Abnormal | |
| Disease: COVID-19 | |
| Microorganism: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) | |
| WGS Pattern: VOC sequence positive: P.1 | |
| Description: REASON: TRAVEL -- SOURCE: THROAT -- REQNo.: N/A -- TC-008 | |

VOC Screening View (Cadham Provincial Lab):

| | |
|---|--|
| Specimen Type / Site: Nasopharynx | Collection Date/Time: 2021 May 12 09:00 CDT |
| Specimen Description: Reason for Testing: Diagnostic | |
| Test Name: SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern | Test Category: General |
| Test Annotations: - | |
| Result Name: SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern | Sample ID: - |
| Result Status: Final | Result Date: 2021 May 12 |
| Result Value: - | Reference Range: - |
| Result Units: - | Range Type: - |
| Interpreted Result: VOC Detected | Range Description: - |
| Flag: Abnormal | |
| Disease: COVID-19 | |
| Microorganism: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) | |
| Further differentiation: VOC sequence positive: VOC Not B.1.1.7 | |
| Description: This assay is validated and performed in-house, based on assays developed in part by Public Health Lab Ontario. | |

Need support?

If you require support with PHIMS access or PHIMS software related issues, please contact the Shared Health Service Desk at:

Email: servicedesk@sharedhealthmb.ca (please state "PHIMS" in the subject line of the email)

Phone: (204) 940-8500

Toll-free: 1-866-999-9698

For urgent matters contact the Service Desk by phone and speak with an agent to escalate your request. Please consult with a peer supporter or trainer before logging any service requests.