

2017-01-04

Maternal-Fetal Medicine Clinics &  
EFW Radiology

Attn: Maternal-Fetal Medicine Clinic Staff and EFW Radiology Staff, Edmonton and Calgary

**Re: Fetal Genotyping on Maternal Plasma Updates**

Canadian Blood Services, Diagnostic Services in Edmonton refers samples for fetal genotyping on maternal plasma to the International Blood Group Reference Laboratory (IBGRL) in Bristol, UK.

Fetal Genotyping on Maternal Plasma collection requirements have changed. The following is a summary of changes and the associated rationale.

- **Change to collect 4 EDTA samples on mother**
  - Increase draw instruction to 4. This will allow preparation of retention samples to address shipping delays and prevent recollection.
- **A father's sample is only required if testing is for RhD (maternal anti-D is present)**
  - New testing criteria received from IBGRL.
- **Instructions for Maternal Fetal Medicine and Laboratory Collection site are now in two documents**
  - Instructions have been separated to allow ease of reference by Maternal Fetal Medicine Clinic and Collection sites.
  - Collection instructions are to be given to the patient to bring to the collection site.

Included in this package are the following revised documents:

- Fetal Genotyping on Maternal Plasma Instructions for Maternal Fetal Medicine Clinic Staff
- Fetal Genotyping on Maternal Plasma Instructions for Collection Site Staff
- IBGRL Requisition (please ensure you have the correct version on file)  
<http://ibgri.blood.co.uk/ReferenceServices/RefSerSendSamples.htm>
- CBS requisition 'Perinatal Follow-Up Testing for Red Blood Cell Serology'
- CBS requisition 'Perinatal Follow-Up Testing for Red Blood Cell Serology' (Example Mark-up)
- Consent for Release of Neonatal Test Results (must be completed and accompany IBGRL requisition).

All documents can also be found on the Canadian Blood Services web site at:

<https://www.blood.ca/en/hospitals/ab-nwt-center/reference-services>.

It is important that you notify the Perinatal Laboratory at Canadian Blood Services in Edmonton prior to samples being submitted for fetal genotyping so that CBS staff can prepare to ship the samples to the reference laboratory without delay. E-mail [perinatal@blood.ca](mailto:perinatal@blood.ca) or call 780-431-8724 and provide patient's name and PHN.



Canadian Blood Services  
Société canadienne du sang

Follow the Fetal Genotyping on Maternal Plasma Maternal Fetal Medicine Instructions. Note that all information including maternal consent for release of neonatal cord testing results, hospital of delivery and primary care provider must be completed prior to send out of maternal samples. As testing of maternal samples is time-sensitive, failure to provide the required documentation may result in the inability to complete testing.

Questions regarding referring samples for fetal genotyping should be directed to Gerri Barr, Diagnostic Services Perinatal Supervisor at 780-431-8724 or by e-mail at [perinatal@blood.ca](mailto:perinatal@blood.ca). Medical inquiries can be directed to either Dr. Judith Hannon [judy.hannon@blood.ca](mailto:judy.hannon@blood.ca) (780-431-8714) or Dr. Gwen Clarke [gwen.clarke@blood.ca](mailto:gwen.clarke@blood.ca) (780-731-8738).

Yours sincerely,

Judith Hannon MD FRCPC  
Medical Director, Canadian Blood Services Edmonton

Enclosures: