



LABORATORY BULLETIN

2007- March-22

Bulletin # 2007– 3

To: Bone Marrow, Stem Cell and Solid Organ Transplant Directors, Managers and Coordinators.

Re: Revision/clarification of Laboratory Phone Out Procedure for CMV Viral Load (PCR) Results

PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS BULLETIN TO YOUR FRONT LINE STAFF AS APPROPRIATE.

Viral load testing by PCR is undertaken routinely to monitor transplant recipients who may be at risk from severe complications associated with CMV infection and disease. Telephoning CMV results to the ward/submitting physician by laboratory staff is currently undertaken for all positive samples on the Calgary site but only for significant positive results (new positives and all results above 25,000 copies/ml plasma) for the Edmonton site.

To streamline and standardize the process we would like to make one CMV phone out policy to cover the important clinical scenarios.

From 1st April 2007 we propose:

1. The first positive CMV result on a patient will be called to the submitter.
2. In addition to 1. any individual test result of $\geq 25,000$ copies/ml (solid organ transplant) or $\geq 10,000$ copies/ml (bone marrow or stem cell transplant) will be called to the submitter.
3. In addition to 1. and 2. all CMV results will still be sent by fax/hard copy/made available by ER3 as per the usual reporting route for the site.

If there is a particular case where you would like to be called whatever the result or have a special request for a fax copy please make this clear [with the appropriate contact number(s)] on the requisition.

If you have any queries or comments regarding this bulletin or other aspects of CMV viral load testing please contact either one of us:



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This bulletin was distributed to:

- Transplant Program Coordinators/Managers
- Transplant Program Directors
- Infectious Disease Physicians associated with transplant programs