



LABORATORY BULLETIN

2009 - March – 20

Bulletin # 2009 - 3

**To: Dr. André Corriveau
 Dr. Richard Musto
 Dr. Gerry Predy
 CD Nurses
 Medical Officers of Health
 TB Clinics
 TB Physicians
 TB Services**

**Re: Mycobacteriology Testing – Microbiologist-on-Call Consultation
 for Discordant Laboratory and Clinical Findings**

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Mycobacteriology Testing is provided by the Provincial Laboratory for Public Health (ProvLab) with services offered in both the Edmonton and Calgary sites. On occasion, clinicians managing patients with potential *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* disease may encounter clinical situations whereby the clinical findings are not compatible with the laboratory findings.

Examples:

- Patient (with normal / inactive CXR / CT Chest) with unexpected positive PCR or positive culture result for *M. tuberculosis* / *M. TB complex* prior to initiating treatment for latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI);
- Patient with radiologic evidence of possible active TB disease (high risk) with a negative smear result.

In such instances, the lab requests that pro-active consultation with the Microbiologist-on-Call at the respective laboratory sites should be initiated to review test results, further testing, and/or DNA fingerprinting as needed.

Microbiologist-on-Call:

Edmonton Site – Ph: 780-407-8822 (UAH Switchboard) or
 780-407-7121 (Laboratory) (ask for MOC)
 Calgary Site – Ph: 403-944-1200 (ask for MOC)

Program Leader, Edmonton – Dr. Greg Tyrrell – 780-407-8949
 Site Program Leader, Calgary – Dr. Marie Louie – 403-944-1200



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This bulletin was distributed to:

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- ◆ TB physicians
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 - Dr. Ryan Cooper
 - Dr. Robert Cowie
 - Dr. Dina Fisher
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