

LABORATORY BULLETIN

2009 – May - 25

Bulletin # 2009– 7

To: Managers, Coordinators and Medical Directors of Organ and Tissue Programs

Re: West Nile virus screening 2009

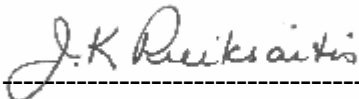
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West Nile virus screening commences 1st June 2009

West Nile virus (WNV) screening is available routinely from June 1st – October 30th for organ and tissue donors (outside this time testing is only for those with a relevant travel history). WNV testing will proceed in 2009, as for 2008, using nucleic acid amplification tests (NATs) undertaken locally (by NASBA/PCR for organ donors) or by referral to Mount Sinai Hospital (Health Canada approved TMA assay for eye and tissue donors). In the case of testing referred out to Mount Sinai, ProvLab will retain residual sample locally for any necessary follow up testing. Please ensure sufficient sample volume is submitted for all necessary NAT screening (EDTA blood) as well as other screening (serum separator tubes).

For further advice and consultation please contact the Virologist (VOC) -on-call:

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



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This bulletin was distributed to:

- ◆ Southern Alberta Tissue Bank
- ◆ Comprehensive Tissue Centre
- ◆ Lions Eye Bank
- ◆ Adult and Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Programs
- ◆ HOPE Program
- ◆ Adult and Pediatric Solid Organ Transplant Programs