

# Labwork During COVID-19 Heart Function Clinic

In view of the intense system demands related to the COVID 19 Pandemic and the need to ensure social isolation for our high risk patients while at the same time ensuring essential care is maintained, the following process related to lab testing for CHF patients is proposed. Note clinical judgement is still required and the following should be considered as a guideline only.

- 1 Can routine lab work can be delayed based on clinical findings, to reduce need for patient to go to lab, until public health restrictions have been removed?

CRITERIA:

- Bloodwork done within 6 -12 months
- Electrolytes and Cr are within normal range; or Cr is stable
- No increase of CR > 30% in last 6 months unless clear cause identified (eg, Infection, over-diuresis)
- No recent medication changes that would effect Cr/Lytes.

*If the patient meets this criteria ask them to get bloodwork done within 3 months, after public health has removed restrictions for social distancing.*

- 2 Is lab work is required for chronic disease management or to prevent an ED visit?

CRITERIA:

- Abnormal electrolytes
- Increase in Cr > 30 % in past 6 months without clear precipitant identified (eg Infection/over-diuresis)
- Recent new medications that could affect lytes/Cr
- Recent frequent ED/Hospital admissions
- Symptoms of electrolyte imbalances or as determined by MD through assessment

*If the patient meets this criteria there are two options to obtain bloodwork:*

- A Arrange in home labs if available in the patients' area through Lifelabs:

i) If the patient has LHIN homecare services- fax request to LHIN care coordinator for in home labs, attach the lab requisition

ii) Pt to pay for service -\$approx 35 per visit. Fax request to Lifelabs or call 705 325 4171, 705 325 6276 Orillia or 1 833 59-VISIT, or visit Website MyVisit@LifeLabs.com

Ensure you write on the lab requisition that date in which you want it done and that it is a home visit

- B Send patient to a local lab

Ask patient to do online booking for Dynacare/Lifelabs to limit their exposure to other people in the waiting room. Pt may also call to the site to book an appointment.

<https://booking.lifelabs.com/LLBooking/default.aspx/>