

Dear Director,

This letter is to inform you that the Viral Hepatitis and Bloodborne Pathogens section at the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) will be temporarily suspending service for the Immunofluorescence Assay (IFA) - IgG of Human Herpesvirus-8 (HHV-8).

This service will be suspended beginning April 1, 2019. The manufacturer (Diasorin) has discontinued the HHV-8 serological detection kit that is currently in our use. The NML will be evaluating alternative serological detection methods in order to reinstate testing in the future. We apologize for the short notice and any inconvenience this may cause. The Viral Hepatitis and Bloodborne Pathogens section will continue to offer the molecular detection of HHV-8 as an alternative in the interim.

If you have concerns or questions pertaining to this suspension of service, please address them to the Viral Hepatitis and Bloodborne Pathogens section Chief (carla.osiowy@phac-aspc.gc.ca) with a copy to the NML's A/Vice President (guillaume.poliquin@phac-aspc.gc.ca). Please be assured that NML is open to discussion on the level of assistance that might be required during the suspension of the IFA – IgG of HHV-8.

Kind regards,



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