



Memorandum

To: All physicians, nurses, and laboratories using OLO
From: Dr. V. Thakur, Division Chief, Biochemistry Laboratory and POCT Lead
Date: September 7, 2023
Re: Differences in results on Point of Care test based Sight OLO and laboratory based analyzers for Complete Blood Counts

Dear Colleagues,

The Health Sciences Laboratory has completed verification studies to examine for bias between the Point of Care Test (POCT) Sight OLO analyzer (used at many community health centers) and the Lab based Alinity HQ CBC analyzer (used at Hub laboratory sites) for low hemoglobin values ranging from 40.5 g/L to 96 g/L (<100 g/L). The comparison data between the two technologies is acceptable and showed minimal bias. Therefore, we have removed all commenting concerning a bias affecting hemoglobin results for CBCs done on the Sight OLO POCT analyzer.

Nevertheless, differences will occasionally be observed between rapid POCT devices and Lab-based devices arising because of differences in technology being used, sample type, and phlebotomy procedures.

All POCT instruments are verified against the laboratory-based instruments and major differences are addressed by changes to decision limits and reference ranges where required. Where feasible, it is advisable to use a one single testing platform to monitor a patient's progress. Small differences in test results are observed when samples from the same patients are tested using two different technologies.

Kindest Regards,

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