



## Memorandum

**DATE:** July 19, 2016

**TO:** All Physicians at HHS, Clinical Managers and Educators at McMaster Site,  
HHS, All Residents

**FROM:** Dr. Mark Crowther, Core Laboratory Professional Staff Lead  
Denise Legeard, HRLMP Project Leader/Six Sigma

**RE:** **CBC Analyzers – Go Live at McMaster on Tuesday, July 19, 2016**

---

The Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program will be going live with its new complete blood cell (CBC) analyzers at the McMaster site today. This is the last analyzer of the implementation. The actual switch over will occur at approximately 12 noon. We will experience some delays as we transition to our new instrumentation, so your patience is appreciated.

As per the memos sent on June 3 and June 13, there will be new parameters and some minor revisions to the Reference Intervals on the CBC reports.

A reminder that as we implement the new analyzers, every CBC will be “new” to the analyzer even if the patient has long-standing abnormalities. As a result, in the first months of implementation, you will see a significantly higher number of smears being performed. This could create delays in the first few weeks. Staff will prioritize areas where the timely release of these results is most critical.

We have done a preliminary analysis of the data from the JHCC site where we went live first. We are thrilled to see that, as a result of the automation built into the system, the average turnaround time (from time of collection to release of the result into Meditech) for samples that did not require a smear was reduced from 39 minutes to 28 minutes, a 28% reduction within the first month of operation. The average turnaround time from the physical receipt in the lab until release of results into Meditech has been reduced from 16 minutes to 8 minutes, a 50% reduction. We are confident that we will see these levels of improvement from all the sites once we have adjusted to the new instrumentation and processes.