



**DATE:** September 13, 2016

**TO:** Physicians and Residents at HHS and SJH  
Clinical Managers and Educators at HHS and SJH  
Advanced Practice Nurses at HHS and SJH

**FROM:** Dr. S. Bates, Division Director Hematology and Thromboembolism  
Dr. M. Crowther, Consultant Hematologist, Core Laboratory, HRLMP  
Dr. C. Hayward, Head, Coagulation, HRLMP

**RE:** **Change in Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (APTT)  
Unfractionated Heparin (UFH) Therapeutic Range**

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Effective **8 am on September 22, 2016**, the HRLMP APTT UFH therapeutic range will change across the Core Laboratories.

The APTT UFH therapeutic range will be updated to:

**Standard** dose therapeutic UFH: **60 – 95 seconds**

**Low-dose** therapeutic UFH (typically used in cardiac patients and adults undergoing continuous renal replacement therapy): **50 - 70 seconds**

Institutionally approved UFH therapeutic ranges are indicated on Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare order sets, which have been updated to reflect these changes.

This change in the UFH APTT therapeutic range is based on analysis of 9 years of APTT data from samples obtained from patients receiving UFH and is being made in collaboration with the Regional Thrombosis Group.

If you have any questions regarding this change or any other coagulation laboratory issue, please contact Karen Moffat, Technical Specialist, Coagulation by email: [moffat@hhsc.ca](mailto:moffat@hhsc.ca) or by phone, 905-521-2100, Ext. 73124.

If you have a clinical question regarding the Heparin Infusion Order sets nomogram, please contact the Thrombosis Service at your site.