HAMILTON REGIONAL LABORATORY MEDICINE PROGRAM

DATE: November 20, 2015

TO: All physicians, Residents, Clinical Managers and Educators at SJH and HHSC

CC: Tracy Carrier, Albert Incretolli, Karon Taggart

FROM: Dr. P. Kavsak, Clinical Chemistry and Immunology

RE: **New Acetaminophen Assay in Hamilton**

Please be advised that effective December 1, 2015, we will be implementing a new Acetaminophen test (the Acetaminophen L3K® reagent from Sekisui Diagnostics) measured on the Abbott ARCHITECT platforms (i.e., all Hamilton Hospitals). Importantly, this assay is not subject to interference by NAC (N-acetylcysteine).

Accordingly, we will be removing the following comment on test results generated with this new reagent*: "Acetaminophen levels may be falsely low immediately after administration of N-acetylcysteine".*

However, during our evaluation of NAC interference we have identified other tests that are affected by the presence of NAC[1].

Please note if a patient is receiving NAC, then lipase, lactate and possibly uric acid, total cholesterol and enzymatic creatinine (CRNEO – Creatinine Neonatal) may be falsely lower.

For further information please contact:

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1. Agbor TA, Brown M, Clark L, Kavsak PA. Negative interference of N-acetyl cysteine (NAC) on selected chemistries on the Abbott architect platform. Clin Chim Acta. 2015 Oct 3.