

Date: November 12th, 2020

To: Medical Genetics, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Genetics Resource Center and all other related physicians and healthcare providers

From: Genomics Laboratory, Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon

Re: Maternal Cell Contamination (MCC) studies available in Saskatoon November 16th, 2020

PLEASE POST AND DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

- For prenatal specimens such as amniotic fluid or fetal tissue, there is the possibility contamination by maternal tissue during a surgical procedure. This could result in a false test result for the fetus, therefore Maternal Cell Contamination (MCC) studies are required to rule out this possibility in the fetal specimen.
- Effective **November 16th, 2020**, all prenatal specimens requiring Maternal Cell Contamination (MCC) studies will be performed at the Genomics Laboratory at Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, and will no longer be sent to the Cytogenetics Laboratory in Calgary.
- For MCC studies, please complete the SHA Cytogenetics requisition form and indicate MCC testing is requested.
- MCC studies will be performed one to two times per week depending on the sample volumes.
- Each prenatal specimen must be accompanied by a maternal peripheral blood specimen. Please collect **maternal blood** in **EDTA** tube (2-7 mL) and send to the RUH Genomics Laboratory.

Why this change is important:

- Repatriation of MCC testing to RUH Genomics Laboratory will assist in improving the test turnaround time, cost efficiency and patient care.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- RUH Genomics Laboratory, (306) 655-1706, Cytogenetics@saskhealthauthority.ca

For additional information regarding Laboratory Services in the former Saskatoon Health Region area, please refer to our website- [Laboratory Services Manual](#).