



# Eastern Health

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All Physicians, Public Health Department Staff, Regional Health Authority Executive Teams

**FROM:** Provincial Public Health and Microbiology Laboratory Services (PHML), Eastern Health

**RE:** ***Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory Downtime***

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From January 20-30, 2017, the Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory at the Public Health and Microbiology Laboratory at the Dr. Leonard A. Miller Center (LAMC) will suspend operations due to necessary maintenance and engineering improvements.

While every effort will be made to minimize any disruptions to testing of specimens and reporting results during this time, no specimens will be processed for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM), and fungal investigation from Friday, January 20 to Sunday, January 29. Normal operations will resume Monday, January 30.

In the event there is a critical and urgent specimen that needs priority processing, physicians are requested to contact the Microbiologist-On-Call through the Eastern Health paging operator.

Please direct any questions or concerns to Dr. Jessica Kafka, Laboratory Operations Manager (709-777-2182) or Dr. George Zahariadis, Director and Chief, Public Health and Microbiology Laboratory Services (709-777-7233).

Sincerely,

Jessica Kafka, PhD  
PHML Laboratory Operations Manager

George Zahariadis, MD, FRCPC  
PHML Director and Chief

January 17, 2017

