

MEMORANDUM



DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES
OF MANITOBA

SERVICES DE DIAGNOSTIC
DU MANITOBA

MS559 - 820 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3A 1R9

Date: February 15, 2011

To: **All Facilities that Refer Hematology Specimens to the Westman Laboratory**

From: Dr. Carmen Morales, Medical Director, Hematology and Immunology Disciplines

CC: Dr. Amin Kabani, Paul Penner

Subject: **Implementation of New Hematology Analyzer at Westman Laboratory**

Effective February 22, 2011, Westman Laboratory (Hematology section) will implement the new Sysmex Hematology analyzer to process specimens for CBC and Reticulocyte requests.

In addition to DSM Specimen Acceptance Criteria, the criteria for processing these specimens are as follows:

- Collection date and time must be included on the requisition.
- Specimens should be transported refrigerated (4 – 8 °C), packaged appropriately with ice-packs and care taken to prevent freezing.

For samples that have been transported refrigerated, "cool to the touch" upon receipt:

If:	Then:
≤ 48 h from collection date/ time,	Sample will be processed.
> 48 h, < 72h from collection date/time,	Sample will be processed with comment: <i>Due to aged sample accuracy of results, in particular red cell indices, will be impacted and morphologic examination of cells will not be performed.</i>
> 72 h from collection date/ time,	Sample will be rejected with comment: <i>Exceeds specimen processing acceptance criteria.</i>

For samples that have been received at room temperature:

If:	Then:
≤ 36 h from collection date/ time.	Sample will be processed.
> 36 h, < 48h from collection date/time,	Sample will be processed with comment: <i>Due to aged sample accuracy of results, in particular red cell indices, will be impacted and morphologic examination of cells will not be performed.</i>
> 48 h from collection date/ time,	Sample will be rejected with comment: <i>Exceeds specimen processing acceptance criteria.</i>

Please direct questions or concerns to the DSM Hematology Discipline Team.

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