

## **Re: Update on the AHCDC Genotyping Laboratory Status and Activities**

To the AHCDC membership:

This is a time of some major changes to the AHCDC-supported Genotyping Laboratory in Kingston so we wanted to provide an update on our status and activities.

Here's a summary -

We should be receiving a provisional laboratory licence from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care to operate as a genotyping laboratory from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.

Following the receipt of our OMHLTC laboratory licence, we will be arranging for a formal accreditation review by the Institute of Quality Management in Healthcare (IQMH), the recognized laboratory accrediting body in Canada. We anticipate that this review visit will occur in the spring of 2018. It's very likely that we will have some (hopefully minor) issues to attend to following the accreditor's visit, and we will report on our progress with these revisions at the AGM in Quebec City.

The turn-around-time (TAT) record for the laboratory has been a concern to us and to some of the AHCDC membership. This challenge has been compounded by Jayne Leggo's unexpected retirement, the training of a new genetic technologist (Gina Jones) and the many requirements that formal laboratory accreditation has added to the operations of the facility. With Gina's increasing experience, and our more routine incorporation of accreditation processes, the TATs will improve. However, it will still be very helpful to us to have high priority samples identified at submission.

The receipt of sample requisitions with minimal or no accompanying information concerning clotting factor status is a continuing problem for the laboratory. A sample submitted from a woman with a "possible family history of a bleeding disorder" can be investigated for hemophilia mutations, but these cases will not be high priority, and are likely to take several months for reports to be generated. In addition, if a sample is submitted on a suspected bleeding disorder patient who is subsequently found to be normal, we would appreciate being notified so that we can stop our testing. This will save a lot of time and money.