



**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** 7-22-19

**TO:** NPL Clients

**FROM:** Rhonda Burgard, MPA, MT (ASCP) BB Client Services Supervisor

**RE: Supply item recall**

There has been a product recall for BD Vacutainer Lithium Heparin tubes (Supply item #800007). Use of these tubes may lead to falsely elevated (positive 12% mean bias) carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) results on the IL GEM 4000 instrument. No significant bias was observed on the Radiometer ABL 90.

A falsely elevated result may cause a patient to continue to receive 100% normobaric oxygen for a period of time. There is minimal health risk associated with a false positive COHb since oxygen toxicity is unlikely to occur during short exposure to oxygen therapy.

Please take the following actions:

- Share this information with your providers
- Do not use BD Vacutainer Lithium Heparin tubes for testing sent to Northern Plains laboratory

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Rhonda Burgard, Client Services Supervisor at 701-530-5700.