

## **Eastern Ontario Regional Laboratory Association (EORLA) Invests In New Equipment For Pembroke Regional Hospital**

**June 19, 2020**

**PEMBROKE – The Eastern Ontario Regional Laboratory Association (EORLA), in partnership with the Pembroke Regional Hospital, has invested in new state-of-the-art equipment to enhance blood testing capabilities in the clinical laboratory, and standardize testing procedures across our region.**

**The new hematology (blood) analyzers are capable of processing 100 test samples per hour. A complete blood count (CBC) test measures several components and features of your blood to evaluate overall health and detect a wide range of disorders.**

**On June 16th, staff began using the new Sysmex Analyzer following an extensive period of validation, quality assurance testing and training for staff, as well as other behind-the-scenes tasks that are required before operating new equipment.**

**“This extensive period of testing and training was done to ensure that the lab produces and reports the highest quality of blood test results for patients and staff,” said Lab Manager Chetan Jariwala. “Given that laboratory test results can influence up to 70 percent of medical decision making, we work to ensure that results are as accurate as possible for both the physicians and patients.”**

**PRH is the second largest EORLA site outside of Ottawa and this is a real investment in the needs of the local community that will contribute to better patient care, said Lab Director Dr. David Colantonio. In addition, most EORLA sites are receiving the same equipment to allow for standardized testing and results across Eastern Ontario. The new blood analyzers will replace instruments that were still functioning but outdated, Dr. Colantonio said.**

**Lab staff at PRH have worked hard over the last several months to ensure that transitioning to the new equipment would be as seamless as possible from a clinical perspective, with no interruptions or delays in patient care.**

**“This important investment represents the ongoing efforts by the Pembroke Regional Hospital, and EORLA to bring high quality care close to home for the residents of Renfrew County,” said Jim Lumsden, EORLA Liaison and Director of Diagnostic Imaging at PRH.**

**EORLA is a member-owned, non-profit organization encompassing the operation of 19 licensed, acute-care, hospital-based clinical laboratories that service clinical programs across Eastern Ontario. The purpose of EORLA is to deliver patient-focused, consistent, high-quality and cost-effective hospital-based laboratory services to meet the needs of the region’s patients.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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