Appendix 1: BC Laboratory Algorithm for Thyroid Tests

For a clinical algorithm, see guideline Figure 1: Clinical Algorithm for Thyroid Function Tests for Diagnosis and Monitoring in Symptomatic Non-Pregnant Patients. Upper limit of normal = ULN.

*Specific Clinical Indications
- **Suspicion of "pituitary" insufficiency**
- **"Thyrotoxicosis"**
- **Patient age < 1 year at time of sample collection**
- **Previous TSH inconsistent with patient presentation** †
- **Query analytical interference** †

† **Requires consultation with laboratory physician**

≥10 mU/L → Measure fT4
- Normal → Measure fT3 → Report TSH, fT4 and fT3
- Abnormal → Cancel fT3 if ordered → Report TSH and fT4

ULN-10 mU/L → Measure fT4 → Cancel fT3 if ordered → Report TSH and fT4

TSH ordered with fT4 and/or fT3 → Measure TSH
- High
- Normal → Does a specific clinical indication apply?*
  - No → Cancel fT4 and/or fT3 → Report TSH
  - Yes → Measure fT4 and fT3 → Report TSH, fT4 and fT3
- Low → Measure fT4 and fT3 → Report TSH, fT4 and fT3

fT4 and/or fT3 ordered without other thyroid test → Does a specific clinical indication apply?*
- Yes → Measure fT4 and/or fT3 → Report fT4 and/or fT3
- No → Cancel fT4 and fT3