

DATE:	2021 May 3
TO:	All Physicians and Submitting Care Providers, QE II Hospital
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), DynaLIFE Medical Labs
RE:	Culture Testing at QEII

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Due to critical staffing shortages, the Microbiology Laboratory department at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Grande Prairie is required to temporarily send most urine, superficial wound, eye, nasal, oral, genital and throat culture testing off site.
- Invasively collected urines such as in/out catheter specimens from children ≤ 5 y, nephrostomy and cystoscopy urines will mostly be processed on site. Non-invasive specimens such as mid-stream urines will be sent to DynaLIFE Medical Labs in Edmonton.
- This will be effective May 3, 2021

Why this is important / how this will impact you

- All test orders will continue to be processed as requested.
- There may be a delay in normal turnaround times for those samples that are sent to Edmonton.
- Onsite testing availability is being reduced for Microbiology only. This *does not* impact other testing.

Action Required

- Please be aware there may be delayed turnaround times.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Debbie Campbell, Manager QE II Hospital Laboratory, Alberta Precision Labs
- Wendy Mazzuca, Director Urban Hospitals (North Sector), Alberta Precision Labs

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Brent Mendez (North Sector) Alberta Precision Laboratories
- Dr. Tatiana Dragan, DynaLIFE Medical Labs