



Laboratory Bulletin

Leaders in Laboratory Medicine

DATE:	2022 April 4
TO:	Ordering Providers at ConnectCare-live Sites
FRUIVI:	APL and DynaLIFE Microbiology, Appropriateness and Stewardship in Asymptomatic Bacteriuria Initiative
RE:	Mandatory entry of clinical indication in ConnectCare/Epic Urine Culture orders

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

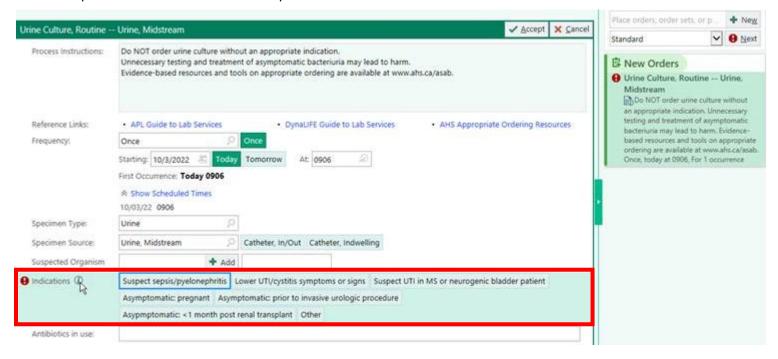
 Effective April 11, 2022 entry of a clinical indication when ordering a urine culture will be mandatory in the Epic environment at sites on ConnectCare.

Background

- Urine culture overutilization is a global problem that results in wasted resources, unnecessary antibiotic use
 with associated patient harms (allergic reactions, toxicity, Clostridioides (Clostridium) difficile infection) and
 development of antimicrobial resistance.
 - 20-80% of urine culture orders in Alberta are unnecessary/inappropriate depending on setting.
- Requiring clinical rationale for ConnectCare Urine Culture orders is one part of a provincial effort aimed at reducing unnecessary urine culture ordering and treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria.
 - This initiative aligns with best available evidence and is supported by Alberta Health Services,
 Choosing Wisely Alberta, the Alberta Medical Association Physician Learning Program, Alberta Precision Laboratories and DynaLIFE Medical Laboratories.

How this will impact you

 Selection of one of the appropriate indications for urine culture orders in the 'Indications' section will be required before orders can be completed:





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• If reasons for ordering fall outside of the provided options, select 'Other' in the indications section and enter the reason for ordering as free text in the 'Other Indications details' field:



Action Required

- Do not order a urine culture without an appropriate indication.
- See the Appropriateness and Stewardship in Asymptomatic Bacteriuria website (www.ahs.ca/asab) for further guidance and resources on appropriate urine culture ordering and treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Dr. Michael Groeschel, MD, Medical Microbiology, michael.groeschel@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
- Dr. Bob Verity, DynaLIFE Interim Microbiology Director, at Tel: (780) 451-3702 ext. 8157 or the DynaLIFE Microbiologist On-Call at Tel: (780) 451-3702

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Interim Chief Medical Laboratory Officer, Alberta Precision Laboratories
- Dr. Erene Farag, Interim Medical Director, DynaLIFE Medical Laboratories