

<b>DATE:</b>	14 November 2022
<b>TO:</b>	Central Zone Health Care Providers
<b>FROM:</b>	APL Microbiology
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Change of Collection Container for Stool Bacterial Culture/Bacterial Enteric Panel Testing</b>

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### Key Message

- Effective immediately, APL will be phasing out the use of enteric pathogen/fecal transport media for collection of stool samples for bacterial culture/bacterial enteric panel testing.

### Background

- Discontinuation of enteric/fecal transport media is necessary to support transition of microbiology testing to Dynalife on December 5, 2022. Enteric pathogen panel testing at Dynalife is primarily done by sensitive molecular methods, which is not performed on stool received in transport media.

### How this will impact you

- Stool culture testing will continue to be done by Red Deer Regional Hospital Microbiology until Dec. 5 for sites that currently send samples there.
  - No changes to test ordering are required.
  - There will be no changes to result reporting.

### Action Required

- Until Dec. 5, locations can use remaining supply of enteric/fecal transport media to collect stool.
  - If depleted before then, switch to use of sterile orange top containers without transport media.
- Starting Dec, 5 stool should only be collected in sterile orange top containers without transport media.
- Stool in sterile containers without transport media should be received by the testing laboratory within 1 day of collection
- Stool with requests for ova and parasite microscopic examination should continue to be collected in containers with SAF preservative.
- See the [APL Test Directory](#) for further information on ordering, collection, and transport requirements.

Discontinuing Stool Collection Devices	New Stool Collection Device
ACP Chemicals Enteric Pathogen Transport 	Sterile Orange Top Container (without transport media) 



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**Inquiries and feedback may be directed to**

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**This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by**

- Dr. Paul Klonowski, Associate Medical Director, South Sector, APL