

DATE:	30 November 2022
TO:	North Zone Health Care Providers
FROM:	APL Microbiology
RE:	Change of Collection Container for Stool Bacterial Enteric Panel Testing

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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 enteric panel testing. Sites involved in this transition include:

Beaverlodge Municipal Hospital	Manning Community Health Complex
Fairview Health Complex	McLennan Sacred Heart Community Health Centre
Fox Creek Healthcare Centre	Peace River Community Health Centre
Grande Cache Community Health Complex	Spirit River – Central Peace Health Complex
Grimshaw/Berwyn & District Community Health Centre	Valleyview Health Complex
High Prairie Health Complex	

Background

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



How this will impact you

- No changes to test ordering are required.
- No changes to the collection device for Ova and Parasites. These should continue to be collected in SAF preservative and in a sterile container without preservative. For further details, please refer to bulletin sent on Mar. 25/19 for specific information about [O&P testing](#).
- 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
- See the [APL Test Directory](#) and the [DynaLIFE Test Directory](#) for further information on ordering, collection, and transport requirements.



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

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to

- Dr. Mao-Cheng Lee, Medical Microbiologist, *DynaLIFE*, mao-cheng.lee@dynalife.ca
- Dr. Bob Verity, Medical Microbiologist, *DynaLIFE*, Bob.Verity@dynalife.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Greg Tyrrell, Clinical Microbiologist, APL Provincial Laboratory for Public Health, Greg.Tyrrell@aplabs.ca
- Dr. Erene Farag, Provincial Medical Director, *DynaLIFE* Medical Labs, Erene.Farag@dynalife.ca