

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>2021 March 22</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>All Physicians and Submitting Care Providers, QE II Hospital</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), DynaLIFE Medical Labs</b>
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Urine Culture Testing</b>

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**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 culture testing off site.
- Invasively collected urines such as in/out catheter specimens from children  $\leq 5$ 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 March 29, 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 a delayed turnaround time on urine cultures.

**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