

Date: November 3, 2016
To: All Physicians, Nurse Managers, Educators, Managers and CPSM
From: BHC Laboratory, AHS Laboratory Services and DynaLIFE Laboratory
Re: Discontinuation of Urine Dip 'N Count Media for Microbiology Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

This change will impact the following sites:

North Zone Health Centres and Clinics	
St Paul	CFB Cold Lake
Cold Lake	Saddle Lake
Glendon	Athabasca
Elk Point	Boyle
Smoky Lake	Vilna

Key Messages:

- **Effective November 7, 2016**, Urine Culture Samples referred to *Bonnyville Health Centre Microbiology Lab* will transition from the Dip 'N Count methodology to BD Vacutainer® Urine Collection System.
- **A new and improved culture method will be implemented for which a fresh urine sample in preservative is required.**
- The BD Vacutainer® Urine Collection system will be used for collection and transport of all urine specimens, including pediatric collections and invasive urines (cystoscopy, suprapubic aspirates, nephrostomy, in/out catheters).
- **Urine collection/transport for toxicological testing or for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoea* (CT/GC) testing and 24 hour urine collections will not be changing.**
- There **will be a change** in the way bacterial counts will be reported. With the new method, *Bonnyville Lab* will report bacterial counts as 10^5 CFU/L, 10^6 CFU/L or $\geq 10^7$ CFU/L.
- Counts of 10^5 CFU/L are usually due to contamination from perineal flora and will not be worked up. Counts of 10^6 CFU/L may also represent contamination, and are only significant **when a uropathogen is pure or predominant AND the patient is symptomatic of UTI.**
- A report of $\geq 10^7$ CFU/L will not differentiate between 10^7 and 10^8 CFU/L. Since currently, both counts are worked up in the same way, this will NOT change how they continue to be processed.
- During the transition to the new culture method, both types of reporting may be seen depending on the culture method used.
- The BD Urine Culture vacutainer should be filled within 20 minutes of collection. Please transport urine sample directly to the lab and refrigerate if vacutainer filling is not possible.
- Small volume urine collections (<10 mL) should be submitted in pink or orange-top, sterile containers which need to be REFRIGERATED during storage and transported with ice packs.
- Unrefrigerated samples received >2 hours from collection and **NOT** in the BD Urine C&S vacutainer will be rejected for culture.
- If the time from collection to receipt in the laboratory is >48hrs for a specimen in preservative, the culture results may be unreliable and clinical correlation will be recommended. These specimens will still be processed with a comment added.

Why this is important:

- The BD Vacutainer® Urine Collection System of products provides many advantages including:
 - More accurate culture results, using additives to preserve the specimen, without requiring refrigeration.
 - Closed system that benefits healthcare workers by reducing exposure to potentially hazardous specimens.
 - Improved safety because plastic vacutainer tubes will not leak in transit.
- Proper urine collection methods, to minimize contamination with perineal flora, remain extremely important. Together with the new collection system, the best quality specimen can be provided, ensuring accurate culture results and better patient care

Action Required:

- Review your current supply of Dip 'N Count media with the expectation to no longer use this product after November 2016.
- BD Vacutainer Urine Collection System supplies are available through established supply sources (i.e. AHS for AHS hospitals and facilities; Materials Management for other locations).
- Arrange training sessions by contacting Tina Peers, Regional Sales consultant, BD Diagnostics at: tina_peers@bd.com or laura_keat@bd.com or Mobile: 780.231.7505.
- To access a training video on how to use the new product, patient collection instructions and more information, visit the *DynaLIFE* Lab website at: <https://www.dynalifedx.com/BD-Vacutainer>
- Or on Insite under > Laboratory Partners > *DynaLIFE* Lab at: <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/1980.asp>

AHS Supplies Ordering Information

Vendor Part Number		Oracle	Meditech FHE: Aspen
BD#	Description	R12#	
364975	Collection cup	175430	29264
364951	C&S tube	177906	29265
364979	Round bottom tube-for Urine Chem	175431	29267
364902	Luer lock device	103656	14358

Note: Sharps containers – there may be a need to convert from a small to larger size of container.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to Leanna Schoepgens, MLT II 780-826-3311 ext 3222

- Lisa Lacoursiere, Manager of Lab & DI, *BHC*
Ph:780-826-8252 Email:Lisa.lacoursiere@covenanthealth.ca
- Dr. Natalia Solomon, Microbiology Microbiologist, *DynaLIFE Lab* Ext. 8176, or the *DynaLIFE* Microbiologist on-call at 780-451-3702

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. Solomon, Medical Microbiologist, *DynaLIFE*

Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Deputy ZCDH, Lab Medicine and Pathology, North Zone

