

**Date:** November 19, 2019  
**To:** Calgary Gastroenterologists and Endoscopy Suite Staff  
**From:** APL Microbiology, Calgary  
**Re:** Helicobacter pylori biopsy transport medium

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### PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

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#### Key Message:

- Effective **Nov 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019**.
- The regular transport medium, **PortaGerm™ Pylori Transport Medium**, for *Helicobacter pylori* culture requests on gastric & duodenal biopsy cultures, is temporarily unavailable from the manufacturer. **Tryptic Soy Broth** will be used as the transport medium in the interim if *H. pylori* culture is required.

#### Why this is Important:

- *H. pylori* collection kits will have Tryptic Soy Broth as the transport medium for the biopsies until the manufacturer's supply is resumed.

#### Background:

- More information can be found on the Guide to Services: <http://www.calgarylabservices.com/lab-services-guide/microbiology/Test/Tests/Helicobacter-Culture.htm>

#### Action Required:

- No other changes to the *H. pylori* culture is required:
  - Continue with the current practice for ordering *H. pylori* collection kits
  - Collect the same number of specimens and place into the tubes
- Transport STAT to the microbiology lab

#### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- APL Calgary Microbiologist On-Call, 403-770-3757, [cls.moc@cls.ab.ca](mailto:cls.moc@cls.ab.ca)

#### This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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