

Date: December 23, 2014
To: North Zone – Former Peace Country Health Region
Physicians, and All Nursing Staff
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: Process Changes Microbiology
Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Grande Prairie

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Key Messages:

On January 5, 2015, the QEII Hospital Laboratory Microbiology department will be launching a number of process changes to improve service. These are the result of using new diagnostic equipment and new urine collection devices.

Why this is important:

- Reduced turnaround times for reporting of pathogens on all specimen types
- Urine culture reports will have improved comments regarding significance and treatment of pathogenic and non-pathogenic isolates (as per the direction of DynaLIFE Consultant Microbiologists)
- Physicians will no longer need to collect a vaginal/rectal swab on prenatal patients at 35-37 weeks gestation when a prenatal urine specimen is positive for *Streptococcus agalactiae*.
- Urine C&S reporting improvements include decreased reporting of mixed growth cultures, improved isolation of uropathogens, fewer rejected urine samples due to age of urine and elimination of improperly inoculated Uricults.

Action Required:

No action required

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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