



Date: September 21, 2020
To: All Physicians and Submitting Care Providers, QE II Hospital
From: Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), DynaLIFE Medical Labs
Re: Urine Culture Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

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 ≤ 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](#).

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. Shobhana Kulkarni, DynaLIFE Medical Labs