

Date: March 9, 2015
To: Central Zone Laboratory Staff, Pathologists and Physicians
From: Red Deer Microbiology Laboratory
RE: Uro-genital Test Requests

The Red Deer Microbiology laboratory has noted confusion regarding which check boxes to mark on the central zone laboratory requisition when requesting tests for genital samples. Several samples have been received in the laboratory with boxes checked on the requisition that do not match the specimens collected. In order to properly process these samples, please do the following:

Bacterial vaginosis/Yeast:

Check Bacterial Vaginosis Screen on requisition.
Collect a vaginal swab with a red-topped Copan Venturi Transystem swab.
Samples will be screened for BV, yeast will be reported if requested or if present on smear.

Trichomonas vaginalis:

Handwrite Trichomonas on bottom of requisition in space titled, Other Tests/Clinical Indications/Relevant History.
Collect a vaginal swab with a red-topped Copan Venturi Transystem swab.
The Trichomonas Antigen Detection test may be performed from the BV swab collection, a second swab collection is not required.

Genital Culture:

Check Genital Culture on requisition and appropriate body site box; cervix, vaginal or urethra.
Collect appropriate swab with a red-topped Copan Venturi Transystem swab.
Vaginal swabs on patients ≤ 13 years are cultured regardless of history.
Cervical or urethral swabs with no relevant history are cultured for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* only.
Full culture is performed if pertinent clinical information is provided in space at bottom of the requisition.

Prenatal Group B Streptococcus Screen:

Check Group B Strep on requisition and appropriate body site box; vaginal or anorectal.
Collect a vaginal/anorectal swab with a red-topped Copan Venturi Transystem swab.
Ensure Penicillin allergy, if applicable, is clearly written in space at bottom of requisition to ensure positive screens have a susceptibility test performed.



A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Garnet Horne".

Dr. Garnet Horne, MD, FRCPC
Central Zone Clinical Department Head,
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Alberta Health Services

Questions may be directed to:
Red Deer Regional Hospital
Microbiology Laboratory
(403) 343-4731