

GENERAL TEST ORDERING AND SPECIMEN COLLECTION INFORMATION – BIOLOGICAL INDICATORS

1. BIOLOGICAL INDICATORS (BI) [Spore Strips and Vials]:

a. Sample Rejection:

Rejection criteria is designed to ensure the provision of valid and timely results. Samples are rejected for the following reasons:

- Leaking/broken vial
- Frozen vial
- No control vial or spore strip received
- Vial or spore strip expired
- Glassine envelope damaged
- Lot # or expiry date on test(s) and control do not match
- Chemical process indicator on test vial unchanged
- Chemical indicator on control vial indicates it has undergone sterilization
- Sample received more than 5 days after collection
- No access number on BI vials/spore strips

b. Requisitions:

Provide the following information:

- Access number
- Facility name, address and phone number including area code.
- Date and time test was run, including AM or PM
- Name and daytime contact phone number (including area code) of sample collector
- Lot number/expiry of control (Control and test must be the same lot/expiry)
- Name/model number of unit
- Sterilizer type
- Sterilization cycle (temperature °C and time in minutes)

Special Notes Regarding Biological Indicator Requisitions:

Follow the instructions provided on the reverse side of the Biological Indicator Requisition for completing all relevant information regarding the packaging, labelling and submission of Biological Indicators

c. Ordering Supplies:

- First time submitters should contact the Environmental Laboratory to obtain an Access number and other pertinent information
Calgary 403-944-1215, press “5”
Edmonton 780-407-8925, press “4”
- Test kits must be pre-paid based on the current price list. Receipts are provided
- Test kits can be ordered from the Laboratory by contacting:
Calgary Business Office 403-944-4613
Edmonton Distribution Centre 780-407-8971