

**Date:** September 1, 2011

**To:** North Zone - Former Peace Country Health Region sites Physicians, Nursing, Health Unit and Laboratory Staff

**From:** AHS Laboratory Services and DynaLIFE<sub>Dx</sub>

**Re:** Change to *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Test Method and Testing Laboratory

---

## PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

---

### Key Messages:

Effective October 3, 2011, all testing for *Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT) and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC) for former Peace Country Health Region (PCHR) sites will be transitioned to the GEN-PROBE APTIMA COMBO2® amplified assay from the current non-amplified method. This testing will be performed on the TIGRIS® platform at the DynaLIFE<sub>Dx</sub> base laboratory in Edmonton.

### Why this is important:

#### Specimen Submission Requirements:

- First catch urine: 20 - 30 mL (beginning of stream in a sterile container). Transfer **2 mL** to a GEN-PROBE APTIMA® Urine Specimen Collection Kit. Store and transport at room temperature. See additional information at <http://www.gen-probe.com/pdfs/pi/501936-EN-RevA.pdf>.
- Swab specimens: Endocervical, urethral, rectal, nasopharyngeal or eye swabs collected in a GEN-PROBE APTIMA® Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit. Store and transport at room temperature. See additional information at <http://www.gen-probe.com/pdfs/pi/501935-EN-RevA.pdf>.

#### Reporting format:

- For Clinics and Physician offices - Hardcopy results will be distributed by DynaLIFE<sub>Dx</sub> to ordering and copy/to physicians. Electronic results will be available in Netcare. Electronic results will **not** be available in Meditech.
- For specimens collected in former PCH facilities (ER departments and inpatient units) – Electronic results will be available in Meditech and Netcare.

### Action Required:

- Before September 12, 2011: Place order for an appropriate supply of GEN-PROBE APTIMA® Collection Kits through your usual supply ordering system.
  - Urine: GEN-PROBE APTIMA® Urine Specimen Collection Kit
  - Swab: GEN-PROBE APTIMA® Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit
- October 2, 2011: Discard all remaining stock of GEN-PROBE PACE® Collection Kits.
- October 3, 2011: Collect all specimens for CT/GC testing in GEN-PROBE APTIMA® Collection Kits.

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Barb Nilsson, Microbiology Supervisor, QEII Hospital Laboratory, AHS at 780-538-7626 or  
Jeff Anderson, Manager Hospital Operations and Consulting Services, DynaLIFE<sub>Dx</sub> at 1-800-661-9876 ext 3214

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. J. Wesenberg, Medical/Scientific Director, Regional Centers and Rural  
Dr. Raymond Lai, Medical Director, DynaLIFE<sub>Dx</sub>