

December 21, 2020

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

St. Boniface Hospital Clinical Microbiology Laboratory to Begin Phoning Critical Result Reports to Emergency Departments at St. Boniface Hospital, Grace Hospital, Victoria General Hospital, and Concordia Hospital

Date effective: January 4, 2021

Background Information:

The St. Boniface Hospital (SBH) Clinical Microbiology Laboratory (CML) is required to institute a process change to achieve compliance to current accreditation standards.

The expected compliance includes the rapid verbal communication and documentation of all critical results.

Historically, SBH CML only sent secure fax reports of critical results to the Emergency Department/Urgent Care at SBH, Grace Hospital (GH), Victoria General Hospital (VGH), and Concordia Hospital (CH). Upon receipt the site Emergency Department/Urgent Care was to sign and return the fax (within 30 minutes) to the SBH CML as documented acknowledgement of their receipt by the care provider.

A review of process compliance has highlighted a gap in completed report return to SBH CML thus necessitating the required change that all critical results are phoned to the Emergency Departments/Urgent Cares at SBH, GH, VGH, and CH effective January 4, 2021. Please note a secure fax will continue to be sent as before but the signing and return to SBH CML will no longer be required.

Critical results include but are not limited to: positive blood cultures (initial Gram stain of positive cultures and 4 hour MALDI-ToF result); positive sterile site cultures (e.g., CSF initial Gram stain result if positive and positive culture result); CPE (carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales), MRSA, and dimorphic fungi identifications; and SARS-CoV-2-positive results.

Effective January 4, 2021 - Change in Critical Result Process:

- The SBH CML will call all critical results and document their communication with the Emergency Department/Urgent Care provider taking the critical result. The process will include conveyance of the critical result, result read-back and documentation of the name of the Emergency Department/Urgent Care person taking the critical result.

Patient Impact:

- None. Turnaround times and reporting will not be affected.

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