

August 15, 2022

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

Change in Collection Container for Routine Urine Culture Processed by Westman Microbiology Laboratory and The Pas Microbiology Laboratory

Date effective: September 7, 2022

Key Messages:

- Effective September 7, 2022, Westman and The Pas Microbiology lab will be no longer accept orange top sterile containers and Uriswab® for the majority of routine urine cultures. A new urine collection container will be implemented that requires a fresh urine sample in preservative. Exceptions include low volume urines for routine culture as detailed in the next bullet.
- Small volume urine collections for culture (<3 mL) from any patient and all NICU samples should be submitted in orange-top sterile containers which need to be REFRIGERATED during storage and transported to the microbiology laboratory as soon as possible.
- A two-week grace period will be given to help with the transition to the BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tubes. Please have this implementation complete by September 21.
- During transition to the new collection container, both old and new types of collection containers will be accepted and processed. There will be no change to culture reporting or final reports.
- The BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube (grey top) will be used for the transport of most routine urine culture specimens, including pediatric collections and invasive urines (cystoscopy, suprapubic aspirates, nephrostomy, in/out catheters).
- The transfer device will include a urine transfer straw that can be used with existing orange top sterile cups.
- There will be no change to any other urine collection or testing process, i.e., samples for urinalysis, urine chemistry or cytology. Continue to collect these samples as per current guide to services requirements.
- The BD vacutainer should not be used for urines being sent for Mycobacteriology, Legionella or fungal cultures. Please continue to submit these requests in an orange top sterile container.

Why this is important:

- The BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tubes provide many advantages including:
 - More accurate culture results, using additives to preserve the specimen without requiring refrigeration.
 - Improved safety because plastic vacutainer tubes WILL NOT LEAK in transit.
 - Improved quality and workflow as samples will not need to be rejected due to leaks. This will reduce the need for recollections.

- BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tubes are critical to the optimization of a new automated specimen processor being implemented in the WL microbiology department to improve system efficiencies.
- Proper urine collection methods, to minimize contamination with perineal flora, remain extremely important. Together with the new transport system, the best quality specimen can be provided, ensuring accurate culture results and better patient care.

Action Required:

- Review your current supply of Uriswab® used specifically for urine cultures (if applicable), with the expectation to no longer use this product after September 7, 2022.
- Order an appropriate amount of stock for conversion, i.e., BD Vacutainer Urine C&S tubes and BD Urine Transfer Straw or BD Urine C&S kit with straw.
- BD Vacutainer® Urine Collection System supplies are available through established supply sources

Ordering Information:

New Product	Size/Volume packaging	Product Code
BD Vacutainer Urine C&S tube	1 CS/1000 Tubes	364951
BD Urine Transfer Straw	1 CS/1000 Straws	364966
BD Urine C&S kit with straw	1 CS/200 Kits	364953

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