



## Clinical Practice Change: Clinical Microbiology

**Date:** July 18, 2014

**To:** All Physicians and Healthcare Staff in Steinbach, MB and Surrounding Areas

**From:** Dr. James Karlowsky, Medical Director Clinical Microbiology, Diagnostic Services of Manitoba

Shirley Hoban, Technical Director, Clinical Microbiology, Diagnostic Services of Manitoba

**Re:** Transfer of Selected Microbiology Tests from Bethesda Hospital Laboratory to St. Boniface Hospital Clinical Microbiology Laboratory

### TAKE HOME MESSAGE:

**Effective July 28, 2014** - Selected Specimens submitted to the Bethesda Hospital Laboratory for Microbiology testing will be forwarded to St. Boniface Hospital (SBH) Clinical Microbiology Laboratory for testing. Result turnaround time will remain unchanged. The orderable test menu remains unchanged.

### What tests will be affected and when will this transition occur?

**Effective July 28, 2014**, selected specimens sent for microbiology processing to the Bethesda Hospital Laboratory (sterile fluid cultures including CSF and vaginal swabs for the examination of bacterial vaginosis and vaginitis) will be transported to the St. Boniface Hospital Clinical Microbiology Laboratory for testing. *Trichomonas* antigen testing from vaginal swabs and Group A Streptococcal antigen testing from throat swabs will continue to be performed by the Bethesda Hospital Laboratory. Referral patterns for all other Microbiology tests will remain unchanged.

If questions arise regarding microbiology results, please contact the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory at St. Boniface Hospital, 204-237-2484.

If issues arise regarding service, please contact Dr. James Karlowsky, 204-237-2105 or Shirley Hoban, 204-237-2073.