

October 24, 2022

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

Change in Collection Container for Routine Urine Culture Processed by the St. Boniface Hospital Clinical Microbiology Laboratory

Date effective: November 8, 2022

Key Messages:

- Effective November 8, 2022, the St. Boniface Hospital Clinical Microbiology Laboratory will no longer accept orange-top sterile containers and Uriswab® for routine urine cultures. A new urine collection container, the BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube (grey top), will be implemented for routine urine culture. The BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube contains a urine preservative to improve culture resulting.
- The BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube will be used for the transport of all routine urine culture specimens as well as pediatric urine collections and invasive urines (cystoscopy, suprapubic aspirates, nephrostomy, in/out catheters).
- There will be no change to any other urine collection or testing process. Specifically, all processes associated with samples for urinalysis, urine chemistry, or cytology remain unchanged. Please continue to collect and submit these samples as per current Guide to Services requirements.
- **Exceptions** to the use of the BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube for samples submitted to the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory include: small volume urine collections for culture (<3 mL) from any patient; and all NICU samples. Both of these sample types should be submitted in orange-top sterile containers. Orange-top sterile containers need to be **refrigerated** during storage and transported to the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory as soon as possible. **In addition**, the BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube **should not be used** for urines being sent for Mycobacteriology, *Legionella*, or mould cultures. Please continue to submit these urines in an orange-top sterile container.
- The BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube system includes a urine transfer straw that can be used to transfer urine from existing orange-top sterile containers to the BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube if required.
- A two-week grace period will be given to help with the transition to BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tubes. Please have this implementation complete by November 21, 2022.
- During transition to the new BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube, both old and new types of collection containers will be accepted and processed.
- There will be no change to culture reporting or final reports with the transition to the BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube.

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 are extremely unlikely to 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 St. Boniface Hospital Clinical Microbiology Laboratory to improve system efficiencies.
- Proper mid-stream urine collection methods, to minimize contamination with perineal flora, remain extremely important. The new BD Vacutainer® Urine Culture and Sensitivity tube transport system ensures the best quality specimen is available for culture, facilitating optimal patient care.
- As a reminder, care providers should also ensure that only patients with appropriate indications/symptoms for urine culture are sampled.

Action Required:

- Review your current supply of Uriswab® tubes used specifically for urine cultures (if applicable), with the expectation to no longer use this product after November 8, 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	SAP
BD Vacutainer Urine C&S tube	1 CS/1000 Tubes	364951	349309
BD Urine Transfer Straw	1 CS/1000 Straws	364966	349300
BD Urine C&S kit with straw	1 CS/200 Kits	364953	349349

Contact Information:

Dr. James Karlowsky, Medical Director, Clinical Microbiology, Shared Health, 204-237-2105,

jkarlowsky@sharedhealthmb.ca

Joelle Carlson, Technical Director, Clinical Microbiology, Shared Health, 204-237-2073,

jcarlson@sharedhealthmb.ca

Dr. Philippe Lagacé-Wiens, Medical Microbiologist, Clinical Microbiology, Shared Health, 204-237-2483,

plagacewiens@sharedhealthmb.ca