



Clinical Practice Change: Clinical Microbiology

Date: October 11, 2016
To: All Physicians and Healthcare Staff in Churchill, MB
From: Dr. James Karlowsky, Medical Director Clinical Microbiology, Diagnostic Services Manitoba
Joelle Carlson, Technical Director, Clinical Microbiology, Diagnostic Services Manitoba

James Karlowsky *Joelle Carlson*

Re: Swab Transport System for Sample Collection will be changing from a Black-Topped Swab with a Charcoal Gel Transport System to a Red-Topped M40 Swab with a Clear Amies Agar Gel Transport System

TAKE HOME MESSAGE:

Effective: October 11, 2016: The appearance of swabs for specimen collection provided by the Clinical Microbiology section of the DSM Laboratory in Churchill will be changing from a black-topped swab with a charcoal-based (black) gel transport container to a red-topped M40 swab with a clear Amies agar gel transport container.

DSM is streamlining the swab transport system dispensed by its Clinical Microbiology laboratories across Manitoba. The result of this change is that the appearance of the swab and its accompanying gel transport system currently provided to Churchill care providers by the Clinical Microbiology section of the DSM Laboratory in Churchill will change from a black-topped swab with a charcoal-based (black) gel transport container to a red-topped swab with a clear Amies agar gel transport container. There will be no difference in laboratory testing of samples collected using the new transport system.

The Clinical Microbiology section of the DSM Laboratory in Churchill will continue to provide black-topped swabs until their supply is exhausted and will then switch to the new red-topped swabs.

If you have any questions, please contact the Clinical Microbiology section of the DSM Laboratory in Churchill, ph: 204-675-8315, before collecting and sending a patient specimen.

A picture of the new M40 Amies Agar Gel Transport system appears below.

