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October 26, 2009

Dear Practitioner

Cadham Provincial Laboratory (CPL) and the Clinical Microbiology Discipline of Diagnostic Services Manitoba Inc. (DSM) are pleased to announce a major reorganization of microbiology services in Manitoba selected to improve quality of care and prevention of disease. Commencing November 15, 2009, affected laboratories will reroute certain specimens and send these to either DSM or CPL laboratory facilities best equipped to provide those microbiology services. Please see the services affected below:

1. Blood Cultures

Blood cultures that are currently forwarded to CPL will be directed to the DSM Microbiology St. Boniface Hospital Laboratory (SBGH) for full work-up. CPL will continue to receive blood cultures at its facility, but will redirect these to the SBGH site. The SBGH laboratory will issue reports directly back to the originating facility by facsimile, and critical results will be phoned as per the DSM Critical Result Reporting Policy to originating facilities. Originating facilities should use DSM Microbiology (SBGH) requisitions and draw blood cultures using the appropriate BacTAlert bottles as per DSM procedures (Regional DSM Site Managers will facilitate this process). These samples should be sent to CPL as per your usual process. During the transition process any blood cultures received with CPL requisitions will still be forwarded to SBGH.

DSM Specimen Collection Procedure for Blood Cultures:

<http://apps.sbggh.mb.ca/labmanualviewer/viewTestWithContainer.action?containerId=6&url=http://banshee:8080/labmanual/test/3666>

DSM (SBGH) Microbiology Requisition:

<http://apps.sbggh.mb.ca/labmanualviewer/viewPdf?url=http://banshee:8080/labmanual/document/56>

2. Stool for Ova and Parasites, Gross Enteric Parasitology

Stool and enteric specimens for parasitologic examination that are currently directed to Westman Regional Laboratory (WRL) will be redirected to the CPL Parasitology Laboratory. This does not include pinworm, *Trichomonas vaginalis* (hanging drop or antigen) or malaria smears. The transfer will occur in a two stage process:

Stage 1: parasite specimens from Central and North Eastman Health Regions will be transferred starting November 15, 2009.

Stage 2: parasite specimens from Brandon and Assiniboine Health Regions will be transferred starting December 15, 2009.

Specimen collection containers and preservative (CPL requires SAF preservative which is the same preservative currently used for specimens sent to WL) may be obtained from CPL. Collecting facilities should use a CPL requisition, also available from CPL.

Parasitology specimens may be sent in your existing CPL shipments, if available (preferred method as it will reduce transit time), or they can be sent as per your current process to WRL (who will redirect them to CPL). CPL will issue reports directly back to the originating facility.

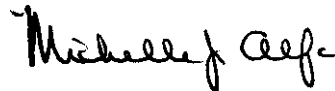
CPL Instructions, Requisition and Supplies Orders: see the online CPL Guide to Services:
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cpl/docs/manual2009.pdf>

If you have any questions regarding this transfer please contact either Dr. Paul Van Caesele at CPL or Dr. Michelle Alfa at DSM.

Yours truly,



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