



STATE OF MARYLAND
DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

Laboratories Administration

John M. DeBoy, Dr.PH., Director

Date: March 4, 2011

To: Submitters of Urine Samples for Chlamydia trachomatis (CT)/GC Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT)

From: Susan Taylor, Chlamydia Laboratory Lead, Division of Virology and Immunology
Heather Peters, Laboratory Scientist Supervisor, Division of Virology and Immunology
Maria Paz Carlos, Ph.D., Chief, Division of Virology and Immunology

RE: **New Urine Sample Collection Procedure for CT/GC NAAT**

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ALL STAFF INVOLVED WITH URINE SAMPLE COLLECTION FOR CT/GC NAAT. IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS CHANGE MUST BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 15, 2011.

The Chlamydia Lab is making a slight change to the urine collection procedure for CT/GC NAAT. It involves the clinic staff transferring the urine sample from the collection cup into a tube using a sterile transfer pipette. Only the capped tube is sent to the lab, not the cup. The tube will hopefully eliminate the problem of sample rejection due to leaking cups that many of you have been experiencing. It will also improve laboratory workflow.

The website link to a 16 minute video of the training held for Planned Parenthood is below. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vNjV8T81gGU>

The written instructions are attached. Please have your staff review both the training video and the written instructions and then dial in to one of the two teleconferences listed below. The 30 minute teleconference will cover the procedure, emphasize the important issues, and answer questions.

TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION

March 17, 2011 10:00 A.M. Dial-in No. 410-225-5300 Meeting ID 8472

March 22, 2011 2:00 P.M. Dial-in No. 410-225-5300 Meeting ID 6037

Note that your site will need to contact the DHMH Laboratory Outfit/Supply Room NOW to order the new CT/GC NAAT urine collection kits. You can call them at 410-767-6120, or fax them a completed order form found at <http://dhmh.state.md.us/labs/pdf/Request%20Form.pdf>. Please order your kits and begin using them as soon as you receive them and have completed the training. Currently, the cups provided in the kit will be the same orange capped, 60ml cup that we have been providing for urine collection. However, once our stock of orange capped cups is exhausted, we will change to a cup with no lid. This new cup is capable of holding 133ml, so it is imperative that you follow the directions and instruct the patient to collect only 15-20 ml (optimally), but no more than 60ml, of the first voided urine. Only about 3 ml will be transferred to the tube and sent to the lab, so clinic staff will have to monitor the volume collected by the patient. Over 60ml will dilute your sample, placing it outside of the manufacturer's specifications for collection, thus lowering the quality of the sample and the sensitivity of the assay. If the 60ml limit is exceeded by the patient, you should dispose of the sample and have him/her recollect at another time, at least one hour post the last urination.

Please visit the DHMH Laboratories Administration web site at <http://dhmh.state.md.us/labs/>

Also, for Chlamydia specific updates at http://dhmh.maryland.gov/labs/html/chlamydia_changes.html

Please do not hesitate to contact us by phone at 410-767-6154 or by e-mail (taylor@dhmh.state.md.us, or petersh@dhmh.state.md.us) should you have any questions. Thank you.

P.O. Box 2355 • Baltimore, Maryland 21203-2355

410-767-6100 • TTY for Disabled - Maryland Relay Service Service 1-800-735-2258

Toll Free 1-877-4MD-DHMH • Web Site: www.dhmh.state.md.us/labs/