

25 March 2024

RE: Urine Specimens for Microbiology

Dear Medical and Nursing colleagues,

This is to inform you that from 22/04/2024, the Microbiology Department will only be processing urine specimens that include appropriate clinical details on the request form.

Clinical details help ensure urine specimens are processed and reported appropriately.

Taking this approach also reduces wasteful and inappropriate testing. It helps free up laboratory workers to focus on tests that will improve patient care.

From **8/04/24-22/4/24 there will be a transition period** during which requestors can phone the laboratory and provide appropriate clinical details within 48 hours of the specimen reaching the lab. For internal requests phone 89826 and for external requests phone 364 0117.

From 22/04/24 onwards this phone service will no longer be provided.

Guidance on appropriate and inappropriate clinical details with examples is shown in the attached guide.

Erik Otte

Clinical Director

Microbiology

Microbiology Urine Clinical Detail Guide

Acceptable clinical details	Unacceptable Clinical details
<p>Symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute dysuria • Frequency • Urgency • Suprapubic tenderness • Flank or back pain • Fever/rigors • Frank haematuria • Dyspareunia • Nocturia • Bedwetting/enuresis <p>Diagnoses/clinical scenarios</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cystitis • Pyelonephritis • Sepsis • Epididymitis/orchitis • Prostatism/prostatisis • Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) • Delirium (with no other obvious cause) • Pregnant (including TOC) • Renal colic/stones • Urology pre-op or pre-procedure • Post renal transplant • Children < 12 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No clinical details • Smelly urine • Cloudy urine • Concentrated urine • Discoloured or dark urine • Routine • Monitoring • Screening (unless pregnant) • Urology clinic review (with no other indications) • Previous UTI ?clearance/test of cure (unless pregnant) • Catheter urine with no evidence of systemic symptoms • Orthopaedic pre-op