

Urine Culture Reporting Guidelines Have Been Revised



Effective October 2019, new reporting criteria will be implemented.

St. Luke's Microbiology laboratory will institute urine culture reporting guidelines based on those recommended by the American Society for Microbiology.

Non-invasively collected urine culture specimens (e.g. CVMS, Void, etc.) will now require a minimum colony count of 10,000 CFU/mL before organism identification and susceptibility testing is initiated. If the culture contains more than one species of organism, the minimum colony count for ID and susceptibility will be 50,000 CFU/mL (two isolates) or 100,000 CFU/mL (three isolates). If three or more species of organism grow in a single culture, and none of the organisms are predominating, the culture will be reported as "Many mixed flora suggesting contamination"

Invasively collected urine culture specimens (straight catheter specimens, cystoscopy, nephrostomy, etc.) will continue to get ID and susceptibility testing on clinically significant organisms, even when present in quantities of less than 10,000 CFU/mL. If more than two species of organism is present, ID and susceptibility testing will be performed on predominant organisms or organisms present in quantities of at least 10,000 CFU/mL.

Sample Type: Urine (Clean Void Midstream, Catheter, Cystoscopy, etc.)

Test Names: Urine Culture (Test Code: CURINE)

If you have questions, please contact St. Luke's Microbiology Laboratory at 218-249-5319 or Dr. Jon Steinhauer at 218-249-5749.