

Preferred Collection Containers for Urinalysis and Culture

The Clinical Laboratories at Cincinnati Children's encourages the use of urine preservative tubes for urinalysis and urine cultures. The urine preservative tube for urinalysis improves the accuracy of reporting cellular elements in vitro; refrigeration alone does not maintain cell stability for cellular elements. However, the urine preservative for urinalysis cannot be used for culture; therefore:

The preferred container for urinalysis is:



- 8.0 mL red and yellow tiger top tube
- Ethyl paraben, sodium propionate and chlorhexidine
- Mercury free
- Sample is stable for 48 hours at room temperature

The preferred container for urine culture is:



- 4.0 mL grey top tube
- Boric acid, sodium formate and sodium borate
- Sample is stable for 48 hours at room temperature

To collect for a urinalysis and culture the preferred method is collecting the urine in a sterile container and splitting the urine into the two preservatives using a BD vacutainer adapter (available from the laboratory).

For GC/Chlamydia and other urine tests please continue to use the sterile urine container; urine samples not received in a sterile container will be rejected.

Supplies are available from www.cincinnatichildrens.org/labs or 513-636-7355.

New Allergy Requisitions

In an effort to better meet the needs of community providers Cincinnati Children's Clinical Laboratories have worked to revamp the allergy requisition form.

The new requisition is double sided with larger font and a simplified layout. The requisition has allergen specific IgE panels on the front and a la carte allergens and component packages on the back.

Panels now offered include:

- Comprehensive Respiratory Region V Allergen Panel
- Basic Respiratory Region V Allergen Panel
- Common Molds
- Common Indoor Allergens
- GI Distress Panel
- Childhood Allergen Panel
- Food Allergen Panel

Using a standardized order form for allergies and allergy panels is a step toward reducing the incidence of missed tests when ordering multiple allergens.

The preferred method of ordering allergy testing is taking a history and ordering individual allergens; however, the allergen panels remain available.

The allergy-specific IgE panels are created to provide primary care physicians with the same options available from all laboratories.

The Cincinnati Children's Clinical Laboratories welcomes feedback on the requisitions. Please contact your Outreach Program Specialist with any comments.

Questions?

Please contact Lab Support at 513-636-7355
www.cincinnatichildrens.org/labs

Laboratory Contacts

Laboratory Support Services

Available
24 hours a day - 7 days a week

513-636-7355

Clinical Director Contacts

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Laboratory Outreach

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Test Result Changes

The Joint Commission (JCAHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have published recommendations for testing of all stool specimens from patients with community acquired diarrhea for shiga toxins I and II and culture for *E. coli* O157:H7.

The Diagnostic Infectious Diseases Testing Laboratories at Cincinnati Children's will begin this automatic testing in August of 2013. Therefore as we begin this testing all stools sent for culture will have a result for shiga toxins I and II reported. The price for stool culture will remain the same.

For questions please contact: Joel E. Mortensen, PhD,
at 513-636-5310.

Results Faxed in Error

The Clinical Laboratories endeavors to produce the most accurate and efficient results, however human error is a possibility; occasionally the laboratory may send a result to an incorrect provider or practice.

If you receive a result in error please contact Lab Support at 513-636-7355 to inform them of the incorrect information. You will be asked to destroy the copy sent in error and the laboratory will begin the process of investigating the root cause of the error.

Your participation in this process allows the laboratory to continually improve our reporting process and stay compliant with HITECH regulations regarding the distribution of privileged health information.

Patient Identifiers

As summer break is coming to an end and children are starting back to school, it is important to remember the uniqueness of each individual child. Cincinnati Children's Clinical Laboratories would like to remind all community offices to double check laboratory specimens and requisitions for two unique patient identifiers to ensure appropriate, accurate, and timely result delivery. Without a second patient identifier, testing is delayed and patient care is affected.

Employee Spotlight: Shelly Hinrichsen



Shelly Hinrichsen is the Outpatient Laboratory Supervisor for the Mason, Anderson, Northern Kentucky, Eastgate, and Green Township locations. Coming to Cincinnati Children's from Deaconess Hospital with the opening of the Anderson laboratory in 1998, Shelly has been with the Clinical Laboratories for 15 years and is a graduate of Cincinnati Tech. In October she will graduate with a Bachelors of Health Science from Northern Kentucky University. When not at Cincinnati Children's Shelly enjoys spending time with her four children, ages 21, 14, 13, and 11.

