

To: UPHS Physicians and Staff

**From: Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
HUP Clinical Microbiology Laboratory
Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD, director
Kyle Rodino, PhD, assistant director**

Date: February 1, 2022

Re: Change in Urine Culture Processing for Ambulatory Male Patients

Effective January 31, 2022, the HUP Clinical Microbiology Laboratory will no longer automatically perform low colony count cultures on urines received from male patients in the ambulatory setting. This change aligns our practice with the other microbiology laboratories in the University of Pennsylvania Health System and follows guidance from the Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook (4th Edition, ASM Press, 2016). Urines collected by suprapubic aspirate and cystoscopy will continue to be performed as low colony count cultures. If a patient requires a low colony count culture, please contact the clinical microbiology laboratory at 215-662-3406 or the microbiology resident at 215-960-6941.