DATE: September 18, 2014

TO: Attending Staff, House Staff, Nursing, Clinics, North Point

FROM: Dr. Glen Hansen, Director, Microbiology Laboratory

SUBJECT: Rapid blood culture reporting now available at HCMC

Effective Tuesday September 23, 2014 the microbiology will provide identification of gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria **directly from positive blood cultures within 2hrs of the initial gram stain result**

- Testing using solid phase array technology will provide differentiation of *Staphylococcus aureus* from Coagulase negative *Staphylococcus* spp along with methicillin resistance by *mecA* detection

- Identification of VRE

- Identification of nine key species and Genus of Gram-negative bacteria and key ESBL determinants

Results will be called as critical values to the appropriate hospital locations similar to positive gram-stain results.

For questions or further information please contact Dr. Hansen (612-873-3026) or the Microbiology Laboratory (612-873-3033) with any questions.