



UNC
HEALTH CARE

MEMORANDUM #147

TO: UNC Hospitals Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Nursing Coordinators,
Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM: Martha McGee, MT (ASCP), AAD Microbiology and Immunology Laboratories
Peter H. Gilligan, PhD, Director, Microbiology-Immunology Laboratory
Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD, Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

DATE: June 26, 2013

SUBJECT: **Urinalysis with Culture Reflex**

Beginning July 7th, 2013 the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory will begin offering a urinalysis with culture reflex test to all inpatient units. **The test can be ordered in CPOE as Urinalysis w/culture reflex.** This test has been available in the Emergency Department for several years and is now being expanded. Urinalysis using the IRIS iQ200 has been shown to accurately predict the presence or absence of bacteriuria and if the sample is a candidate for urine culture based on the evaluation of four analytes analyzed on the IRIS- **Leukocyte Esterase, Nitrite, WBC, and Bacteria**. If one or more of the following criteria are met upon UA, a culture will be performed:

- Leukocyte Esterase: Trace, 1+, 2+
- Nitrite: Positive
- WBC: > (greater than) or = (equal to) 5 wbc/hpf
- Bacteria: Rare, Occasional, Few, Moderate, Many

These bacteriuria indicators that will determine if a urinalysis is positive have defined thresholds that were set by laboratory directors as determined by in house validation studies.

Patients must meet certain criteria in order have the urinalysis with culture reflex test. Patients who will be excluded include:

- Patients who are <5 y/o
- Pregnant women
- Patients currently on antibiotics
- Patients who are neutropenic

It will be the physician's responsibility to determine these exclusion criteria and order the correct tests accordingly. The physician will still have the option to order a urinalysis only or a urine culture only.

Additional information can be found on the McLendon Clinical Laboratories website (<http://labs.unhealthcare.org/>). Questions not answered by the website can be directed to the Microbiology Laboratory at 966-4056.