



MEMORANDUM #181

TO: UNCHCS Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM: ^{HP} Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD, Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories
^{MM} Melissa Miller, PhD, Director, Clinical Molecular Microbiology Laboratory

DATE: November 29, 2018

SUBJECT: Changes to *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* cultures

Beginning immediately, the UNC McLendon Clinical Laboratories will no longer provide routine *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* cultures (EPIC order, GONORRHOEAE CULTURE). *Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae* NAAT is the preferred test for urine, cervical and vaginal swabs, male urethral swabs, rectal swabs, throat swabs and ocular specimens (EPIC order, CHLAMYDIA/GONORRHOEAE NAA).

GONORRHOEAE CULTURE will be removed from ordering preference lists and will be replaced with NAAT.

NOTE: *N. gonorrhoeae* culture is still available for cases of suspected therapeutic failure. Please order "TEST OF CURE GONORRHOEAE CULTURE" and transport the swab to the lab immediately. If *N. gonorrhoeae* is isolated, it will automatically be sent out for antimicrobial susceptibility testing.

If additional information is needed, please consult the McLendon Clinical Laboratories website at <https://www.uncmedicalcenter.org/mclendon-clinical-laboratories/> or contact Dr. Melissa Miller at pager 216-6131 or the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory at 4-1805.