Memorandum: Micro #252

To: UNC Health System Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Nursing Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

From: Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD
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Date: September 17, 2025

Subject: **Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel Collection Update: Fecal Swab Transport System**

Beginning September 22, 2025, UNC Medical Center McLendon Clinical Laboratories will accept the Copan Fecal Swab Transport System for GI Pathogen Panel (GIP) testing [Test Code: LAB6053]. The FecalSwab is the preferred method for submitting stool specimens for this test. Specimens in this transport device remain stable for up to 24 hours at room temperature or 72 hours when refrigerated.

Specimen transfer overview:

- Use the swab to sample liquid or unformed stool. Stool can be stored refrigerated up to 24 hours or at room temperature up to 2 hours before sampling.
- Place the swab into the transport media and snap it off at the red line.

- Do not use this device to collect rectal swabs, which are not acceptable specimens for GIP testing.

Detailed instructions are available on the McLendon Clinical Laboratories website: UNCMC GIP Webpage.

The FecalSwab Transport System is available through Shared Services (Infor # 235155). Submit a MySupport - Infor Financial and Supply Chain ticket to add item to a PAR location.

Questions can be directed to the Molecular Microbiology Lab 984-974-1820 or Dr. Melissa Miller at melissa.miller@unchealth.unc.edu.