

To: UCM Medical Staff, House staff, Nursing Staff (Hyde Park and Ingalls Memorial)

From: Antimicrobial Stewardship and Clinical Laboratories (Hyde Park and Ingalls Memorial)

Date: 10/1/2025

Subject: Urinalysis with reflex to urine culture order (LABHEUAC) Update at UCM Hyde Park and Ingalls Memorial

Effective Date: 10/6/2025

Laboratory Section: Microbiology/Immunology

Summary:

Effective October 6, 2025, the Hyde Park and Ingalls Memorial Clinical Laboratories will be modifying the Urinalysis Chemistry Screen w/microscopic and culture reflex order criteria for when the order will reflex to culture. The urine culture will now only reflex when the WBC on urinalysis is 10/hpf or above. This change removes the prior reflexive criteria of leukocyte esterase positive and increases the WBC threshold previously used of 5/hpf. Note that this change is specific to Hyde Park and Ingalls Memorial and will only apply to inpatient and ED orders. With this change, it is important to ensure timely delivery of samples to the laboratory.

In an effort to ensure appropriate use of the Urinalysis Chemistry Screen w/Microscopic and Culture reflex for patients with urinary symptoms, the lab order in Epic has also been modified to require providers to document urinary symptoms present and source of collection. A sidebar has also been added to provide guidance on when urine culture ordering is indicated. Along with these updates, we also have updated the urine culture (without urinalysis) (LABMCURCB) to specify the populations where this order should be used.

The test name and test code will remain the same:

Test Name: Urinalysis Chemistry Screen w/Microscopic and Culture Reflex

Test Code: LABHEUAC

Questions:

If there are any questions regarding this change, please contact:

- For UCM Hyde Park
 - Natasha N. Pettit, PharmD, BCIDP, FIDSA, Pharmacy Director of Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (Hyde Park). Natasha.Pettit@uchicagomedicine.org
 - Elizabeth Bell, MD, Associate Medical Director, Antimicrobial Stewardship. elizabeth.bell@bsd.uchicago.edu
- For Ingalls Memorial
 - Rachel Marrs DNP, RN, CIC, Executive Director, Infection Prevention and Control. Rachel.Marrs@uchicagomedicine.org
 - Seshank Arimilli, MD, Medical Director, Infection Prevention & Antimicrobial Stewardship, Ingalls Memorial. Seshank.Arimilli@uchicagomedicine.org