

Genital Cultures



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Effective May 8th, 2017 St. Luke's Laboratory will no longer perform routine Genital Cultures on vaginal or cervical specimens from females of child-bearing age.

This change is being implemented because non-culture based tests are more reliable than bacterial culture for detecting the most common causes of genital tract infections in women of child-bearing age. Multiple alternative tests are available that may be ordered based on clinical presentation. These tests include, but are not limited to: Gonorrhoeae/Chlamydia PCR, Trichomonas PCR, Group B Strep PCR, Bacterial Vaginosis Gram Stain, Vaginal KOH, and Vaginal Fungal Culture. Please refer to the St. Luke's Laboratory Test Catalogue for more ordering options as well as detailed specimen collection instructions.

Genital cultures will still be performed on Bartholin gland cysts, surgically collected specimens from normally sterile sites, and on specimens collected from pre-pubescent or post-menopausal women.

Test Name: CGENITAL

If you have questions, please contact St. Luke's Microbiology Laboratory at 218-249-5319 or Dr. Jon Steinhauer at 218-249-5749.