

Infection

INFECTION CONTROL AND PREVENTION

CONNECTION



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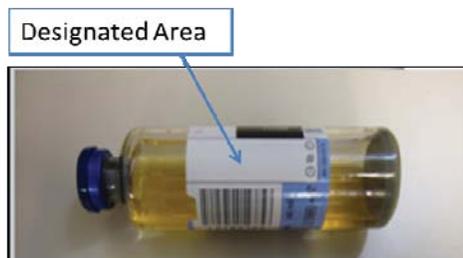
JAN THRU JUNE 2014

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Correct Collection and Labeling of Blood Cultures

Overfilling and under filling blood culture bottles is detrimental to the recovery of Pathogenic organisms and can lead to both false positive and false negative results impacting patient treatment. This also renders the specimens unusable. Labels must be placed on blood culture bottles in a designated area for the laboratory to process them on their equipment. If labels are placed incorrectly, the specimen may be rejected.



Influenza A/B/RSV Panel

Effective 6/16/14, the Clinical Microbiology department will discontinue the Influenza A/B/RSV panel for the 2014 flu season. Currently, the predominate viruses being seen are Metapneumovirus, Rhinovirus, and Parainfluenza. Only the Comprehensive Respiratory Viral Panel (RVPPR) will be offered until an increase in influenza activity is again seen. The Comprehensive Respiratory Viral Panel is offered daily but is not offered STAT.

Chikungunya Fever - Emerging Infectious Disease

Chikungunya (pronunciation: \chik-en-gun-ye) fever is a disease caused by a virus that is rapidly transmitted by mosquitoes. Chikungunya disease outbreaks have occurred previously in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Indian and Pacific Oceans but recently the disease has rapidly expanded geographically to include several Caribbean countries and territories. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently reported the occurrence of more than 100,000 suspected or confirmed cases of chikungunya disease throughout the Caribbean in just 6 months. The disease is expected to continue its progression to areas where the vector, Aedes mosquito, is found including many parts of the United States as far north as New York. Health officials are concerned that chikungunya could become established in the U.S. Humans in areas where chikungunya disease has not been prevalent are very susceptible since they have had no exposure to the virus.

Most infected persons develop symptomatic disease that includes acute onset of fever and crushing joint pains which can often be severe and debilitating. Symptoms generally resolve within 1 week although joint pain can last for months. Deaths are rare and the disease occurs mostly in adults. There is no specific treatment, vaccine, or preventative drug. The best way to prevent chikungunya virus infection is to avoid mosquito bites. This includes the use of screens on windows and doors, application of insect repellents, and wearing long sleeves and pants when outdoors.

Bed Bugs

The policy has been modified to direct personnel to immediately contact General Services when a suspected bug is found. General Services will contact a professional exterminator to make an identification and provide instructions for next steps.

Isolation Pocket Guide

The isolation pocket guide has been modified and is available as a quick reference. Click [here](#) to view and contact the Infection Control & Prevention department if interested in a laminated copy. Thank you!

Soiled Linen

Soiled linen should not be thrown on the patient's floor or carried against your uniform. Please bring the linen hamper to the patient's room to avoid environmental contamination or soiling of your uniform.

Pets

The Administrative policy, Pet Visitation/Service Animals, provides guidelines for service animals and visitation of a patient's personal pet.

The Infection Control & Prevention policy, Pet Therapy, details the therapy program that is managed and monitored through Karla Bachl and the Volunteer Department. All therapy pets should be identified with an LVHN ID badge.

Infection Control and Prevention

1251 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 204
Allentown, PA 18103

2545 Schoenersville Rd., 4th Floor
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Brought to you by the Infection Control and Prevention Department

Alida Ammon • Terry Burger • Paula Cook • Carolyn Cramsey • Deborah Fry
Bernadette Kratzer • Bethann Kretzman • Amber Kucher • Michelle Maron • Sharon Miller
Sarah Rinker • Robin Tannous • Gary Tallarita • Elaine Walz • Diane Weslosky

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