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**TO:** UCH Medical Staff, Housestaff, Patient Care Centers, and Outpatient Clinics

**FROM:** Kathleen G. Beavis, MD, Director, Clinical Microbiology / Immunology Laboratories

**RE:** Change in blood culture bottles

To improve safety and minimize pneumatic tube system downtime, two of the three currently used blood culture bottles are changing from glass bottles to plastic bottles. The glass BD BACTEC™ Peds Plus/F Culture Vials (pink) will remain in use at this time.

This transition from glass to plastic bottles will start on March 30, 2017. The current inventory of glass blood culture bottles will be phased out as inventory is depleted, so both the glass and plastic bottles will be in use for some period of time. Descriptions of the bottle and volume criteria are displayed in the table below.

<b>Current Glass bottle</b>	<b>Glass bottle volume</b>	<b>New Plastic bottle</b>	<b>Plastic bottle volume</b>
BD BACTEC™ Plus Aerobic/F Culture Vial (blue/silver)	Optimal: 8-10 mL Minimum: 3 mL Maximum: 10 mL	BD BACTEC™ Plus Aerobic/F Culture Vial (blue/silver)	Optimal: 8-10 mL Minimum: 3 mL Maximum: 10 mL
BD BACTEC™ Standard Anaerobic/F Culture Vial (yellow)	Optimal: 5-7 mL Minimum: 3 mL Maximum: 7 mL	BD BACTEC™ Lytic/10 Anaerobic/F Culture Vial (purple)	Optimal: 8-10 mL Minimum: 3 mL Maximum: 10 mL

Oracle numbers for ordering bottles will remain the same.

For questions, please contact Cindy Bethel, Chief Medical Technologist, at 773-795-9142, or Vera Tesic MD, Assistant Director, at 773-702-2677.