



Routine Urine Chemistry Analysis

Please note that from **Monday 27th March 2017**, chemistry analysis of urine (“dipstick urinalysis”) will no longer be routinely performed on urine samples submitted to the microbiology laboratory.

In terms of diagnosing infection, there is very little additional value of dipstick urinalysis over and above automated urine microscopy performed by the laboratory.

Urine chemistry analysis will still be available on request. If a specific parameter (e.g. protein, glucose, bilirubin) is sought based on the clinical presentation of the patient, it should be specifically requested on the request form, along with the clinical rationale. For urine protein requests, the urinary protein:creatinine ratio will be calculated as usual.

This change brings us into line with the majority of clinical microbiology laboratories in New Zealand.

If you have any questions with regards to this change, please feel free to contact us.

Please ensure all members of your institution receive a copy of this clinical update.

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