

CHANGES TO MRSA SCREENING SAMPLES

Microbiology has installed a new automated platform, the WASPlab (Walk Away Specimen Processor) to improve the efficiency and quality of our service. For this system the swab must be in liquid phase so we will gradually be changing the types of swabs we use across the trust.

From Week Commencing 11th January we will begin to roll out the new swab packs for **MRSA SCREENING ONLY** to Wards and Departments at the **LGI ONLY**. Other hospital areas will be introduced in the following months. Further communications with dates will be sent prior to this.

All three swabs for screening will be in one blister pack along with a tube containing liquid medium. Information sheets on the use of the swabs will be supplied.



The number of swab packs needed in each area has been calculated from current usage figures. Initially you will be supplied with two months stock based on this usage. After this time further stock can be obtained from the usual routes.

As these swabs are specifically for MRSA use and to minimise errors please do not hold excess stock in your areas. We will be monitoring how many swabs are distributed to areas across the hospital.

Order Comms will continue to print 3 labels until all locations are swapped over. Please use one label for the swab and discard others.

For enquires please contact Nicola Millican (nicola.millican@nhs.net ext:26986), Nigel Smith (nigeldsmith@nhs.net ext: 26986) or Mel Hall (melaniehall@nhs.net ext: 28765)

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