

September 11th, 2025

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To: IH Laboratory Staff
From: Dr. Bing Wang, Medical Microbiologist
Melinda Carrier, Health Services Director

Re: Discontinuation of SPS Vacutainer Tube

Effective October 31st, 2025, production of the BD yellow top sodium polyanethol sulfonate (SPS) vacutainer tube will be discontinued by the manufacturer. SPS tubes are currently used for fungal and mycobacterial blood and bone marrow culture collection in Interior Health (IH).



Important Information

- Interior Health has placed one final order for SPS tubes with any expiry date of May 2026
 - This order will be distributed amongst the following sites: EKRH, KBRH, KGH, PRH, RIH and VJH
 - Other IH lab sites should contact their closest regional lab listed above to obtain a small stock of SPS tubes as needed
 - All sites should discontinue ordering these tubes from the manufacturer immediately, as a large stock is already available in IH
- Continue to use SPS tubes for fungal and mycobacterial blood and bone marrow culture collections. A replacement product will be communicated at a later date.
- Refer to the IH Microbiology Laboratory Test Directory for more information in specimen collection and ordering: [microbiology-guide-to-specimen-ordering-collection-and-transport-information.pdf](#)

Action Required

- Obtain SPS tubes from existing stock located at EKH, KBH, KGH, PRH, RIH and VJH.
- Continue to use SPS tubes for fungal and mycobacterial blood and bone marrow culture collections and submit to BCCDC for testing.