



NIAGARA HEALTH SYSTEM  
SYSTÈME DE SANTÉ DE NIAGARA  
TOGETHER IN EXCELLENCE - LEADERS IN HEALTHCARE



WEST LINCOLN  
MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL



## Regional Microbiology Service

The LHIN Laboratory Medicine Network continues its plan to develop a Regional Microbiology Service through the consolidation of Microbiology testing in Hamilton. On January 27<sup>th</sup>, Microbiology and Reference Testing from the Niagara Health System transferred to the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program. Microbiology and reference testing samples are being delivered multiple times per day. Orders are placed and results returned via an interface directly into the Meditech systems at both organizations. The leadership teams at both the HRLMP and the NHS have been working together for months to make the transition for patients and clinicians a smooth one. The staff in our Microbiology departments at the Hamilton General and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton have responded to the added workload with extreme professionalism, positive attitudes and effective teamwork!

### *Did you know??*

*Our Regional Microbiology Service is BIG! The Niagara Health System orders almost 165,000 microbiology tests per year, Joseph Brant orders approximately 71,000, and 300,000 orders are placed in Hamilton for a grand total of approximately 536,000 Microbiology samples per year!*



*Wishing all our Olympians the best of luck as they take on the world in Sochi!*

A Message from our Executive Director, David Langstaff.....

Another year....another step forward towards integration! Activity is underway in many areas of the region working towards building a regional laboratory medicine system. The teams in Hamilton have started to receive the work from the Niagara Health System as outlined above; the West Lincoln and Hamilton teams are working towards integrating their operations; and the Quality Management and Transfusion Medicine teams are finalizing their yearly goals. Everyone else is providing daily quality laboratory medicine services to their patients and clinicians. What other initiatives would you like to see worked on this year? Let me know ! Reach out at [AskDavid@hhsc.ca](mailto:AskDavid@hhsc.ca).