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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 8, 2016

**TO:** HHS and SJH Physicians, Microbiology Partners, IDMM Residents

**FROM:** Dr. C. Main, Dr. M. Smieja

**CC:** J. Korver, D. Boychuk, J. Ellis, C. McCallum, Dr. J. Fernandes, M. Gaskin,  
D. Johnson

**RE:** **Temporary Blood culture instrument system disruption**

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On April 7 a BacTAlert instrument in the microbiology laboratory experienced a temporary system disruption which has been resolved. The system is now functional and microbiology is introducing added measures to ensure that patient results are not impacted by the event. As a result, Microbiology staff will be performing terminal subcultures of all negative blood cultures after they finish their 5 day incubation on the affected BacTAlert instrument. This will delay the final "No growth after 5 day incubation" results being sent out. There is also a very small chance that additional positive culture results will be identified in the terminal subculture and these will be reported out using critical result reporting procedures.

Physicians may consider repeating blood cultures for patients at high risk of bacteremia who had their initial blood cultures collected between 13:30 on Tuesday April 5 and 13:30 on Thursday April 7.

For any questions, please contact Dr. C. Main (ext 46182) .

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