

## Lab Testing Update

### **CHANGES TO URINE CULTURE SUSCEPTIBILITY POLICY**

Attention: Medical Staff

St. Elizabeth Microbiology is changing the policy of urine culture susceptibility testing in outpatient females of childbearing age. Empiric therapy is recommended in uncomplicated urinary tract infections in this patient population. Our previous policy was to ask physicians to call the lab to have susceptibility testing performed. In response to physician input the laboratory has revised its policy. Susceptibility testing will be performed on all urine cultures with 2 or fewer organisms showing greater than 100,000 cfu/ml of an isolate requiring susceptibility testing. Those with lower counts will have a request in the report to call if sensitivities are desired. Catheterized specimens and those with clinical information indicating the need for testing, but having lower counts, will continue to be tested.

If you have any questions regarding the policy change please contact the Microbiology Department at 859-301-2074.