

April 24, 2020

To: COVID-19 testing sites, Acute Care, Primary Care
From: Cadham Provincial Laboratory (CPL)

ATTENTION: Faulty Swab Recall

It has come to our attention that a batch of swabs that were distributed to a limited number of sites in the province have a break point that is too shallow for the swab (approximately 3cm from the tip). The standard swabs are to have a break point of approximately 7 to 10 cm from the tip. See the image below of the faulty swab.

The swabs were shipped between the afternoon of Tuesday, April 7th and the morning of Thursday, April 9th. A list of the facilities where the swabs may have been sent to is attached. Please check your inventory prior to use and return any of these swabs, unused and still in their packaging, to CPL.

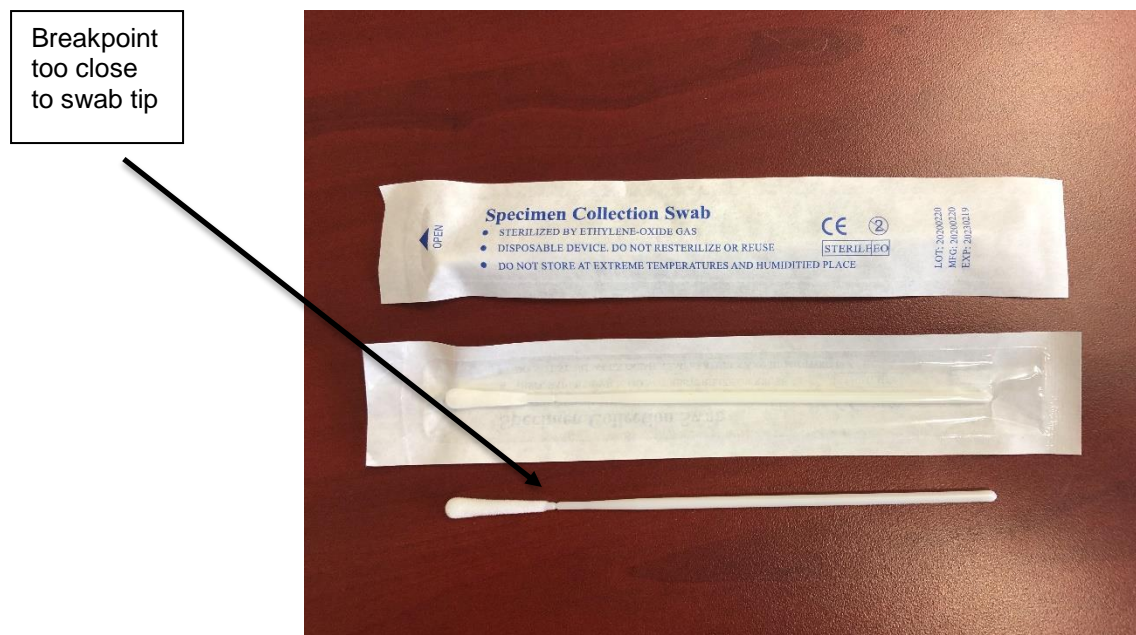
Going forward, if one of these swabs is used in error please discard it appropriately and repeat the collection procedure with an appropriate swab.

Please note that this break point does not impact the results of the test and if any have been submitted prior to the receipt of this memo they will still be processed by Cadham Provincial Laboratory.

The number of swabs available throughout the province remains adequate, so please order an additional supply if and when it is required by your site.

Please note that this issue has already been addressed with the manufacturer.

If you have any questions or if any concerns arise due to the use of these swabs please contact Cadham Provincial Laboratory at 204-945-6123.



The following sites had shipments of swabs sent out during that time period and may have received some of the faulty swabs:

- Beausejour Hospital Lab
- Bethesda Hospital Lab
- Bison Drive Test Site
- Cross lake Nursing Station
- DeSalaberry Lab
- Flin Flon General Hospital
- Gillam Hospital
- Golden West Centennial Lodge
- Health Sciences Centre - Microbiology
- Kildonan PCH
- Main St. MPI Test Site
- Northern Health Region – Public Health
- Oakview Place
- Park Manor PCH
- Pauingassi Nursing Station
- Portage District General Hospital
- Poseidon Care PCH
- Selkirk Hospital Lab
- Split Lake Nursing Station
- Swan Valley Health Centre
- The Pas Health Centre Lab
- Thompson Clinic
- Thompson General Hospital
- Westman Lab – Microbiology