

Laboratories at Adventist Healthcare White Oak Medical Center, Shady Grove Medical Center, Fort Washington Medical Center, and Germantown Emergency Center

LABORATORY ALERT

**Subject: Communication between sites RE: Synovial Fluid**

*The Laboratory is informing you of the following change:*

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| **Effective Date:** | 9/11/2023 |
| **Process:** | After receiving and tracking synovial fluid at GEC or FWMC, the tech at GEC or FWMC will notify the Tech in Charge at SGMC that the synovial fluid is coming. The tech in charge at SGMC will document the call on the TIC pass down log. |
| **Background Information:** | Synovial fluids are irretrievable samples and require special handling and attention. SGMC is the designated site (Center of Excellence for AHC) for synovial fluid analysis for samples collected from satellite sites (GEC and FWMC).  Communication is required when satellite labs send synovial fluids to SGMC, to ensure proper workup and timeliness of results. |
| **Reminders:** | Synovial fluid Gram Stain, cell count, crystal and plating are done ONLY at SGAH for specimens coming from GEC and FWMC.  Synovial fluid culture code is XFLC. XFLC includes gram stain analysis.  Transfer of samples between sites is the responsibility of AHC and the courier account should be 1417 when calling Runners for a STAT courier. |