

# COVID Safety Alert

**Date Issued:** July 1, 2020

## COVID-19 BIOTECKE SWAB KITS

### SAFETY ISSUE:

**Situation** – Please be advised that one of the CommonSpirit Health hospitals has reported a noticeable discoloration in the viral transport medium (VTM) included in the BioTecke Swab Kits allocated during the week of June 22, 2020.

**Background** – Approximately 20,000 of these kits have been distributed across all Divisions at CommonSpirit Health in the past 10 days.

**Assessment** – After consulting with the manufacturer, it has been determined kits with discolored media should not be used.

### Recommendations

1. VTM that is yellow/orange in color should **NOT** be used. This discoloration is an indication that the kit has undergone extensive exposure to excessive heat, although the swab kits do not require refrigeration.
2. The VTM should be pink in color, and may vary from light pink to dark pink.
3. If you find swab kits that contain yellow/orange VTM, please contact your local Laboratory Services leadership with the number of damaged kits you have and then dispose of them.



**CONTACTS:** Please reach out to your local Laboratory Services Department or Janet St. John, Supply Chain Contract Manager at [JanetStJohn@catholichealth.net](mailto:JanetStJohn@catholichealth.net) or 720-875-7485.