

## **IC5: 0900 Specimen Handling and Transport**

### **1.0 STANDARD**

All specimens are considered infectious and will be collected appropriately and handled in a manner to prevent contamination of staff and the environment. All staff shall follow Routine Practices when handling specimens.

### **2.0 PROCEDURE**

#### **2.1 Staff shall**

- Wear gloves when handling specimens
- Collect specimens as per the facility policy or lab manual
- Avoid contaminating the outside of the specimen container. Clean and dry the outside of the container if necessary
- Perform hand hygiene after handling specimen and removing gloves
- Clearly label specimen. Complete requisition
- Secure each specimen and requisition in an individual biohazard (zip-lock-type) bag for the transportation to the lab
- Send specimen to the lab as per agency contract and protocols

### **3.0 REFERENCES**

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). Routine practices and additional precautions for preventing the transmission of infection in health care settings. 2012

Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC). Routine practices and additional precautions in all health care settings, 3rd edition. 2012