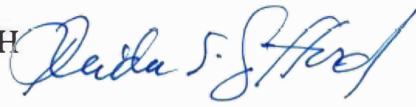# STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner

Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

BLAST FAX 2020-68

TO: Nursing Home Administrators

FROM: Commissioner Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH

CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
Adelita Orefice, JD, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner
Barbara Cass, Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch
Donna Ortelle, Section Chief, Facility Licensing and Investigations Section

DATE: June 12, 2020

SUBECT: Molecular Transport Media (MTM) Collection Kits

On May 28, 2020 an Everbridge alert was disseminated regarding PrimeStore molecular transport media vials used for SARS CoV-2 test sampling. The alert indicated the transport media contained guanidine thiocyanate and produced a dangerous chemical reaction releasing cyanide gas when exposed to bleach. Should any spills related to the contents of the collection kits occur, THE SPILL SHOULD NOT BE CLEANED WITH BLEACH OR A BLEACH PRODUCT. Follow up communication with nursing home facilities who received the MTM collection kits identified the kits were either used for sampling and sent to a laboratory for processing that did not use the Hologic Panther or Panther Fusion System or were held back and replaced with other collection kits.

Phone: (860) 509-7400 • Fax: (860) 509-7543
Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
www.ct.gov/dph
Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Currently, we would like to get visibility on any unused MTM collection kits that may be in a nursing home's inventory. Should you have any remaining MTM SARS CoV-2 test sampling kits, please respond to the email box below and indicate the name of the facility, a point of contact, the best contact method (phone number or email) and the number of kits you may have in your inventory.

ng.ct.ctarng.mbx.joc-tf-srgn@mail.mil

Thank you for any consideration that you give to this request.

Picture of PrimeStore MTM