



## KARIUS Testing: Step-by-Step Tip Sheet

### **STEP 1: Confirm Approved Clinical Scenario (Provider Responsibility)**

KARIUS testing may only be used if the patient meets one of the following:

- Immunocompromised patient with evidence of infection AND ICU admission
- Immunocompromised patient with new or worsening signs of infection despite therapy
- Any patient with endocarditis, mycotic aneurysm, or vascular graft infection

KARIUS testing is NEVER recommended for sepsis/suspected bacteremia, polyarthritis, serial monitoring, asymptomatic transplant patients, repeat testing during the same encounter, outbreak investigations, or non-admitted patients.

### **STEP 2: Provider Places KARIUS HOLD Order (Provider Responsibility)**

The provider orders the "KARIUS Hold Order" in Cerner PowerChart and selects the appropriate clinical scenario. No pathology or medical director approval is required.

### **STEP 3: Specimen Collection and Laboratory Hold (Test Management Responsibility)**

Blood is collected and processed by the laboratory. Plasma is frozen and held for up to 3 weeks from the collection date.

### **STEP 4: Attempt Standard Diagnostic Testing (Provider Responsibility)**

If the patient is stable, obtain standard microbiology cultures, directed specimens, and pathology testing first. If invasive sampling is contraindicated, proceed to KARIUS testing.

### **STEP 5: Provider Requests KARIUS Testing (Provider Responsibility)**

If KARIUS testing is needed, the provider must place a "Laboratory Communication" order requesting the held specimen be sent. This must be done within 3 weeks of specimen collection.

### **STEP 6: Laboratory Sends Specimen (Test Management Responsibility)**

**Laboratory Communication received**- Complete out Karius Hold Order by entering the following information

- Karius Hold Order – Proceed w/order
- Date of Discard or Ordered: enter date approved to process to Karius
- System order placed in Cerner: #KARIUS
- No additional approvals are required

**No Lab Communication received** – Cancel Karius Hold Order

- Karius Hold Order – Cancelled
- Date of Discard or Ordered: enter date sample discarded (should be after the 3-week storage hold period)

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

- KARIUS HOLD specimens expire after 3 weeks and are discarded
- Laboratory Communication is required to release the specimen
- Standard diagnostics should always be attempted first when feasible