




Microbiology Specimen Requirements Quick Reference


For help, call 616-267-2640 or 616-267-2642

***Photos are for reference— always check labels to verify proper test/container**

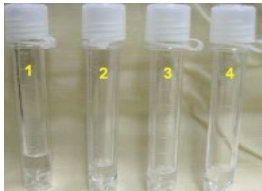
Blood

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood Culture Bottle BacT/ALERT 		FA plus Aerobic (green) ; FN plus Anaerobic (orange) Collect Peds in Aerobic (green) ; see lab catalog for volume
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fungal Blood Culture AFB Blood Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BACTEC Myco/F Lytic Vial Sodium Heparin Tube (green) 		See Lab Catalog for specifics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSV 1/2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDTA Tube (lavender) 		See Lab Catalog for specifics


Body Fluid

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFB Culture Body Fluid Anaerobes Body Fluid Culture w/ gram Fungal Culture: <u>not</u> hair, skin, or nail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> eSwab™ (less than 1.0 mL) Sterile Container w/ Screw-On Lid 		Use an eSwab if the volume is less than 1.0 mL; otherwise, use the sterile container A swab with fluid from abscess or ear drainage should be ordered as a Wound Culture

Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFB Culture CSF Culture Cryptococcus Antigen** Enterovirus Fungal Culture: <u>not</u> hair, skin, or nail HSV 1/2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSF Tube Sterile Screw-Capped Transport Tube 		**Order a Fungal Culture with the Cryptococcus Antigen test Order of testing on CSF will be 1) Hematology, 2) Microbiology, 3) Hematology, 4) Chemistry

Sputum




Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFB Culture Cystic Fibrosis Respiratory Culture Fungal Culture Respiratory Sputum Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sterile Container w/ Screw-On Lid 		Rinse mouth and collect 4 or 5 deep coughs in container ; cap and deliver to the lab ASAP Morning collection is preferred

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Stool

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enteric Pathogens by PCR ▪ H. Pylori 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cary Blair (Dark Pink Liquid) 		Send in stool 3-pack and fill all containers to the indicated line
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Giardia/Cryptosporidium ▪ Ova and Parasites, Complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAF Fixative (Clear Liquid) 		Send in stool 3-pack and fill all containers to the indicated line
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adenovirus ▪ C. Difficile Toxin*** ▪ H. Pylori ▪ Lactoferrin ▪ Occult Blood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty Vial (Plain Container) 		<p>***C. Diff must be liquid/loose</p> <p>Send in stool 3-pack and fill all containers to the indicated line</p>

Swab- General (NOTE: fluid, tissue, or biopsy is preferred over swab)


Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anaerobe Culture ▪ Bordetella Pertussis PCR ▪ Ciprofloxacin Screen ▪ Fungal Culture: fluid, genital, or oral <u>not</u> hair, skin, or nail ▪ Group B Strep, PCR (GBS) ▪ Group B Strep, Penicillin Allergy PCR ▪ MRSA Screen ▪ Staph. Aureus Screen ▪ Strep A Screen: cervix/vaginal ▪ Trichomonas: OSOM or Wet Prep ▪ VRE Screen ▪ Wound Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eSwab™: Standard Tip • eSwab™: Mini-Tip (preferable for pediatric and nasopharyngeal collection) 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Remove tube from wrapper 2) Label with patient information 3) Remove swab aseptically and collect sample 4) Place swab in tube so that it reaches the bottom 5) Break off swab at the edge of the tube (molded mark) 6) Screw cap on tube tightly 7) Send tube with swab inside to the Laboratory <p>NOTE: Clearly indicate the source of the specimen</p>

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Swab- Throat

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strep A Rapid Strep A Screen, Culture if Negative Throat Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swab provided in kit (for Rapid only) eSwab™: Standard Tip eSwab™: Mini-Tip (preferable for pediatric and nasopharyngeal collection) 		<p>See Lab Catalog for specifics</p> <p>NOTE: Clearly indicate the source of the specimen</p>



Swab- Viral

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bordetella PCR CMV Culture Chlamydia Culture COVID-19 PCR Herpes Simplex PCR or Culture Influenza A/B PCR RSV (PCR or Rapid) Respiratory Pathogens by Film Array**** VZV PCR Viral Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UTM (regular flocked swab) 		<p>Tube with swab inside should be put into a specimen bag and stored/transported refrigerated</p> <p>NOTE: Clearly indicate the source of the specimen</p> <p>****Resp Path by Film Array: Adenovirus ; Bordetella parapertussis and pertussis ; Chlamydia pneumoniae ; Coronavirus ; Influenza A/B ; Metapneumovirus ; Mycoplasma pneumoniae ; Parainfluenzas ; RSV ; Rhinovirus-Enterovirus ; SARS-CoV-2</p>

Tissue

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFB Culture Fungal Culture hair, skin, or nail Tissue Anaerobes Tissue Culture w/ Gram 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sterile Container w/ Screw-On Lid 		<p>Only order if specimen is large, actual tissue</p> <p>NOTE: for small tissue or biopsies, collect with an e-Swab and order a Wound Culture</p>

Urine

Associated Test(s)	Container(s)	Photo(s)*	Special Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urine Culture & Sensitivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gray Top Urine Tube Sterile Container w/ Screw-On Lid 		<p>Should be from Catheter or Clean Catch Mid Stream</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urinalysis (UA), Culture if Positive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yellow Top Urine Tube x2 Gray Top Urine Tube 		<p>Send <u>two yellow</u> and <u>one gray</u></p> <p>Should be from Catheter or Clean Catch Mid Stream</p>