



ALVERNO LABORATORIES

SPECIMEN COLLECTION GUIDE MICROBIOLOGY

Specimen collection instructions and guidelines may change. We recommend checking the collection manual for the most up-to-date collection information at www.AlvernoLabs.com

Reviewed May 2021

Reach us at 800-937-5521

ESWAB - CULTURES ONLY

Healthcare providers are encouraged to use the Eswab that best fits the specimen source and patient. Eswabs are interchangeable for all cultures in the section listed immediately below.

CANNOT BE USED FOR MOLECULAR OR RAPID KIT TESTING EXCEPT FOR MRSA BY PCR.

FLOCKED SWAB

ORDER#132433

Cultures:

Throat, Nasal, MRSA, Wound, Anaerobic, Group B Strep screens



GROUP A STREP ESWAB DUAL SWAB *FLOCKED + RAYON SWAB

ORDER# 171956

Rayon swab for in-office, rapid test.

If applicable, flocked swap to Alverno for reflex culture.



MINI-TIP

ORDER#132434

Cultures:

Ear, Eye, Gonorrhea Genital cervical/urethral



FLEXIBLE MINI-TIP

ORDER# 132435

Cultures:

Nasopharyngeal - Sinus



PARA - PAK

CARY-BLAIR MEDIA

ORDER# 23205

Stool Culture - Vibrio Culture
Yersinia Culture - Shiga Toxin
E.coli 0157 Culture Testing



SAF FIXATIVE

ORDER# 11939

Ova and Parasite
O&P Screening



MINI TIP FLEXIBLE SWAB

ORDER# 9514

Influenza A and B testing by EIA method



URINE TUBES

NO ADDITIVES

ORDER# 353447

Legionella antigen by EIA Testing
Streptococcus pneumoniae antigen



BORIC ACID TUBE

ORDER# 26971

Urine Culture



ORDER# 25487

Use for transfer to tube



BD UTM

(Universal Transport Media)

ORDER# 123823

Rapid, qualitative detection of
Influenza A Virus,
Influenza B Virus, and
Respiratory Syncytial Virus.



STERILE SCREW CAP CUP

(NO ADDITIVE)

ORDER# 153706

Sputum culture
Sterile body fluids
Tissue, hair, skin or nails
Stool for rotavirus testing by EIA





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GOLD TOP TUBE

3.5 ml ORDER# 335641
5 ml ORDER# 9605

**Centrifuge & Refrigerate
(after full clot formation)**

Panels

Basic Metabolic 8
Comp Metabolic 14
Electrolytes
CORP (Lipid Panel)
Renal Function
Acute Hepatitis
Hepatic Function
Allergen Profiles

Individual Tests

AFP Tumor
Albumin
Amylase
ANA Screen
ANCA Vasculitis
Bilirubin, Total*
BUN
CA 125
CA 19-9 (CA199)
CA 27-29 (C2729)
Calcium
CEA
Cholesterol
CK
Creatinine
CRPHS
CRPQT
Ferritin
Folate
FSH
Gamma GT
Glucose
HCG Tumor
HCG Quantitative
Hepatitis A/B Antibody, IgM
Hepatitis C Antibody, IgG with Confirmation
Herpes Simplex Virus 1/2
IgG antibody
HIV Ab/Ag (non-shared parent tube)
Iron
Iron/IBC



GOLD TOP TUBE

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5 ml ORDER# 9605

LD (LDH)
Lipase
Magnesium
Mono Test
Phosphorus
Potassium
Prenatal Quad Screen
Pregnancy Screen Serum
Prolactin
Protein Electrophoresis
Protein, Total
PSA Diagnostic
PSA Screen
RA (Rheumatoid Factor)
Rubella, IgG
Syphilis Screen (may reflex)
SGOT (AST)
SGPT (ALT)
Sodium
T3 Free
T3 Total
T4, Free
T4, Total
Testosterone, Total
Triglyceride (TRIG)
TSH
Uric Acid
Vitamin B 12
Vitamin D 25 OH (screening test for Vitamin D deficiency and to monitor response to supplementation)

**Centrifuge within 2 hours,
freeze within 72 hours if
testing is not completed:**

Estradiol Total
PSA Free & Total Panel

Centrifuge and do NOT uncap:

Alcohol (Ethanol)
Carbon dioxide (CO2)



RED TOP TUBE

ORDER# 9577

**When Fully Clotted,
Centrifuge, Separate
Serum & Refrigerate**

Amikacin
Carbamezapine
Digoxin
Dilantin
Lithium
Phenobarbital
Theophylline
Valproic Acid
Vancomycin

**See Collection Manual for
Handling:**

C3
C4

Progesterone (only red top tube)



PINK TOP TUBE

ORDER# 25393

One Tube Per Test

ABO/Rh
DAT (Direct Coombs)
Type and Screen



GREEN TOP TUBE

ORDER# 18122

*HEPARIN TUBE

PTH, Intact

Plasma must be separated from cells within two hours of collection and placed in a transfer tube.

**Vitamin B6
(protect from light)**

Protect from light during storage, and shipment. Separate plasma or serum from cells within 1 hour of collection. Transfer 1 mL plasma or serum to an Amber Transport Tube. (Min: 0.5 mL)



LIGHT BLUE TOP TUBE

ORDER# 4496

**See Collection Manual for
Details on these tests:**

D-Dimer
Fibrinogen
Prottime
PFA (Platelet Function Assay)
APTT



LAVENDER TOP TUBE

ORDER# 9603

**See collection manual for
details:**

Ammonia
BNP
Cystic Fibrosis (non-shared tube)
Homocysteine
RBC Folate

**Refrigerate, and do not
centrifuge:**

CBC
Hemoglobin
Electrophoresis
Hemogram
Hgb A1C
Reticulocyte Count (RETIC)
Sed Rate (ESR)
Sickle Cell Screen

Room Temp: HLAB27



ROYAL BLUE TOP TUBE

ORDER# 9614

Lead Testing
Any Heavy Metals Tests



TAN TOP TUBE

EDTA - Lead Free
ORDER# 309445

Lead Testing

URINE COLLECTIONS



ORDER# 353447

UA with microscopic
UA without microscopic



ORDER# 26971

Urine Culture

Use gray top tube if UA may result in an urine culture reflex test



ORDER# 89792

All urine chemistry testing including pregnancy urine test

H. pylori Stool Testing

Stool unpreserved in sterile vial/container
Refrigerate



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THIN PREP PAP



- ORDER# 144598
 ⇒ HPV
 ⇒ GC/Chlamydia

ABBOTT MULTI-COLLECT SPECIMEN COLLECTION KIT



- ORDER# 176526
 Intended for the collection and transportation of male and female, swab and urine specimens for the detection of Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae

BBL CULTURE SWAB LIQUID STUART

ORDER# 193216

OR E-SWAB

ORDER# 132433

- ⇒ MRSA or MSSA by PCR



BD AFFIRM VAGINITIS PANEL

ORDER# 108401

- ⇒ Gardnerella
 ⇒ Trichomonas
 ⇒ Candida sp.*

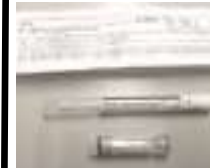
*does NOT identify the species of Candida yeast



BD Max Vaginitis Panel

ORDER# 181279

- ⇒ Bacterial Vaginitis
 ⇒ Trichomonas
 ⇒ Candida species will be identified



E-SWAB

ORDER# 132433

- ⇒ Group B Strep by PCR
 ⇒ Vaginal/Rectal E-SWAB



STERILE SCREW CAP CUP (no additive)

ORDER# 153706

- ⇒ Respiratory Wash/Aspirate
 * Flu A / Flu B / RSV panel
 * Flu A / Flu B panel
 * Respiratory 21 Pathogen Panel
 * B. pertussis and parapertussis
 * Mycoplasma pneumoniae
 ⇒ HSV 1 and 2
 * Respiratory Wash / CSF
 ⇒ Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV)
 * CSF
 ⇒ C. diff by PCR
 * Stool
 ⇒ Enteric Pathogen Panels
 * Stool (bacterial and parasitic)
 ⇒ Norovirus
 * Stool
 ⇒ CMV Qualitative by PCR:
 * CSF, Urine, Respiratory Wash



BD UTM (Universal Transport Media)

ORDER# 123823

By PCR:

- ⇒ Varicella zoster virus (VZV)
 ⇒ Herpes virus 1&2
 ⇒ Flu A / Flu B / RSV virus panel
 ⇒ Flu A / Flu B virus panel
 ⇒ Mycoplasma pneumoniae
 ⇒ B pertussis and parapertussis
 ⇒ Respiratory 21 Pathogen Panel
 ⇒ SARS-CoV-2



LAVENDER TOP TUBE: WHOLE BLOOD

ORDER# 9603

- ⇒ Factor V Leiden Mutation by Real Time PCR
 ⇒ Factor II Mutation by Real Time PCR
 ⇒ Cystic Fibrosis screen: original tube only
 ⇒ CD4/CD8 (T-Cell Subsets)
 ⇒ Lymphocyte Subsets (T, B, and NK cells)
 ⇒ Lymphoma/Leukemia Immunophenotyping by FlowCytometry
 ⇒ Fetomaternal Bleed by FlowCytometry
 ⇒ HLA B27 Detection by FlowCytometry



UROVYSION

ORDER# 135884

- ⇒ For bladder cancer test collection use Urocyte Kit



PARA-PAK SAF FIXATIVE

ORDER# 11939

- ⇒ Enteric Parasite Panel

PARA-PAK C&S CARY-BLAIR MEDIA

ORDER# 23205

- ⇒ Gastrointestinal 22 Pathogen Panel
 ⇒ Enteric Bacterial Panel
 ⇒ Extended Enteric Bacterial Panel
 ⇒ Norovirus



LAVENDER TOP TUBE: PLASMA*

ORDER# 9603

- ⇒ CMV Qualitative PCR
 ⇒ CMV Quantitative PCR
 ⇒ HCV Quantitative by PCR
 ⇒ HIV Quantitative by PCR**
 ⇒ HBV Quantitative By PCR
 ** requires plasma from 2 lav tubes

*Submit plasma in a transfer tube



GREEN TOP TUBE: SODIUM HEPARIN

ORDER# 9604

- ⇒ Hematological FISH testing for peripheral blood or bone marrow aspirate

