

Microbiology Specimen Collection Containers

Zuckerberg San Francisco General
Clinical Laboratory

For further information contact:
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BACTERIOLOGY

Urine Culture



Refrigerate if unable to deliver to lab immediately. Stability: 24 hours refrigerated

Blood Culture



ANAEROBIC
AEROBIC

- 10 mL optimal per bottle
- Deliver to Lab ASAP
- If short draw, or after ABX, collect in Aerobic (**Blue top**), not for AFB or Fungus

Routine Bacterial Culture



Includes Misc, EENT, GBS Screen, GC, MRSA

- Provide the source
- Not for tissues, body fluids, cath tip, Viral cultures, or Bordetella PCR

Anaerobic Culture



- For fluids or abscesses only

GC & Chlamydia Screen



A. Swab

- For cervix, urethra, throat & rectal only, no vaginal
- Clean with white swab & discard
- Collect & Transport with **BLUE SWAB** only

B. Urine

- Collect 20-30 mL urine **AND**
- Transfer to transport tube within 24 hrs of collection (fill between the 2 arrows)

C. Multi-test swab

- vaginal only (**PINK SWAB**)

Rapid Group A Strep



- For Throat only
- Use both swabs. Lab will reflex to culture if rapid test is negative.
- Stability: 24 hours

Enteric Stool Culture



- Preserves stool specimen for 72 hours.
- Unpreserved stool specimen (collected in plain container) is stable for only 2 hours.
- Not acceptable for C. difficile or parasites

Bordetella pertussis Culture/PCR



- Kit provided by Lab Support Services (x68199). Follow kit instructions.

Sterile Container for Specimen Collection and C. difficile



- Provide the source
- Add 0.5 mL saline to biopsy & tissue specimens
- Acceptable for body fluids, sputum or urine specimens, AFB & Mycology cultures
- C. difficile stability: 24 hours