



KAISER PERMANENTE®

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Media Plating Chart

Always process culture media at Medical Center and forward plates to Regional Reference Laboratory

Instructions: Plate only the ones marked with X. Do NOT plate the grayed-out areas.

Culture	Health Connect Order code	Specimens	BAP	CHOC	CNA	MAC	Thio	Gram Stain	Other	Comments
			OR BAP/CHOC Bi-plate**		OR CNA/MAC Bi-plate**					
MODIFIED Q SCORE WITH REFLEX TO SPUTUM CULTURE	87205ZX	Sputum	X	X		X		X	Mod Q Score	Process in less than 2 hours
CULTURE, RESPIRATORY	87070F	Bronchial (not BAL)	X	X		X		X		Process in less than 2 hours
		Lung washing	X	X		X		X		Process in less than 2 hours
		Tracheal/ endotracheal/ trans tracheal	X	X		X		X		Process in less than 2 hours
CYSTIC FIBROSIS RESPIRATORY CULTURE	87070Q		X	X		X			CF add BCSA and MSA agar	
CULTURE, RESPIRATORY, BACTERIAL, QN	87071E	Bronchial (BAL)	X	X		X				Streak for quantitation using 0.01 mL calibrated loop. Process in 2 hours
CULTURE, CSF	87070I	CSF or CSF Shunt	X	X			X	X		Centrifuge if >1 mL CSF is present in the tube used for microbiology culture, inoculate sediment. Cytospin for Gram stain preparation. If ≤1 mL fluid is received, then inoculate plates and cytospin for Gram stain Attach green sticker to CSF plates if sample volume ≤1 mL.
STERILE SITE CULTURE	87070ZZG	CAPD Fluid PD Fluid Peritoneal Dialysate	X	X	X	X		X	Aerobic/ Anaerobic Blood Bottle	Inoculate aerobic and anaerobic blood bottles with 10 mL each of uncentrifuged fluid. Centrifuge 50 mL or remainder of fluid, if <50 mL, and aspirate supernatant, leaving about 2-3 mL fluid without disturbing any visible pellet. Vortex suspension and inoculate plates and cytospin for Gram stain preparation.

STERILE SITE CULTURE	87070ZZG	Ascites Fluid	X	X	X	X		X	Aerobic/ Anaerobic Blood Bottle	If >=10 ml fluid is received, then inoculate plates and cytoSpin for Gram stain. Use the remaining fluid to inoculate up to 10 ml into aerobic bottle and the rest (up to 10 mL) into the anaerobic bottle. If <10 mL fluid is received, then inoculate plates and cytoSpin for Gram stain. Use the remaining fluid to inoculate into aerobic bottle.
STERILE SITE CULTURE	87070ZZG	Abscess (sterile site) Aspirate/ Exudate/ Drainage Fluid, non-specified Pericardial Fluid Peritoneal fluid (abdominal fluid) Pleural Fluid	X	X	X	X	X	X		Centrifuge if >4 mL fluid is received, inoculate plates with sediment and cytoSpin sediment for Gram stain. If ≤4 mL fluid is received, then inoculate plates and cytoSpin for Gram stain Attach green sticker to plates if sample ≤4 mL.
STERILE SITE CULTURE	87070ZZG	Bone Marrow	X	X					May receive in blood bottle only. Do not reject.	Usually received in sodium heparin tube.
STERILE SITE CULTURE	87070ZZG	Cornea/Vitreous Fluid	X	X				X		Send cornea tissue to Regional Laboratory. For fluid, centrifuge if >1mL and inoculate sediment. If ≤1 mL fluid is received, then inoculate plates and cytoSpin for Gram stain Attach green sticker to plates if vitreous fluid sample volume ≤1 mL.
STERILE SITE CULTURE	87070ZZG	Joint fluid/synovial/bursa	X	X				X	X	CytoSpin for Gram stain, if not thick
STERILE SITE CULTURE	87070ZZG	Tissue swab (no tissue mass)	X	X	X	X	X	X		Med Center to perform Gram stain: take 1 drop of fluid from swab using a sterile transfer pipette. Send plates to Regional Laboratory.
		Tissue mass	Submit moist (1-2 drops sterile saline) in sterile container							Send tissue to Regional Laboratory

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Culture	Health Connect Order code	Specimens	BAP	CHOC	CNA	MAC	THIO	GS	Other	Comments
			BAP/CHOC bi-plate		CNA/MAC bi-plate					
CULTURE, CATHETER TIP	87081O	Hickman, Central, PICC, other IV or arterial line tips	X						Roll tip over surface of agar, do not remove catheter tip. Also, collect blood cultures X2.	Do not culture tips other than IV line tips such as Hemodialysis tips, foley tips, other large catheter-like segments. Send other tips in a sterile cup.

Legend for Notes: (*) = Cytospin for GS preparation, (**) = Bi-plates for sterile site specimens only (use with Manual Streaking Station labels)

Culture Urine	Urine with > 3mL: place into boric acid transport tube and send to Regional Reference Lab								
Culture Urine, low volume	Urine with < 3mL: DO NOT put in boric acid transport tubes, inoculate at Med Center using scheme below								
CULTURE, URINE	87088C	Clean catch, indwelling catheter						One BAP/MAC bi-plate	Plate 1:1000 only (1 ul loop)
CULTURE, URINE [1:100 DILUTION]	87088I	Straight cath, cystoscopy, suprapubic, nephrostomy, kidney						Two BAP/MAC bi-plates	Plate both 1:100 (10 ul loop) and 1:1000 (1 ul loop)
CULTURE, URINE, TRANSPLANT PROTOCOL	87088F	Sterile collection						One BAP/MAC bi-plates	Plate 1:1000 only (1 ul loop)
URINE CULTURE (IN PREGNANCY)	87088G	Clean catch and others						One BAP/MAC bi-plate	Plate 1:1000 only (1 ul loop)
URINE CULTURE FOLEY CATHETER									
	87088N	Urine collected from Foley Catheter						One BAP/MAC bi-plate	Plate 1:1000 only (1 ul loop)

Note: Urine and Catheter tip media do not require CO₂ during transport incubation. All other culture media (respiratory/sterile site/CSF) require CO₂ during transport incubation. If limited space just add CHOC to CO₂.

Test Information for Medical Centers, Non-Plated Cultures

Culture	Health Connect Order Code	Other	Comments		
CULTURE, ACTINOMYCES ANAEROBIC	87075A	Anaerobic Transport, See LabNet	Send to Regional Laboratory		
CULTURE, AFB	87100	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			LJ media can be requested from SWL
	Physician collect	Cornea/Corneal scrapings: direct inoculation onto LJ media			
CULTURE, ANAEROBIC	87075G	Anaerobic Transport, See LabNet			
CULTURE, ANAEROBIC PERIPROSTHETIC JOINT STERILE SITE	87075V	Anaerobic Transport, See LabNet			
CULTURE, BLOOD	87040D	Aerobic (FA) and Anaerobic (FN), See LabNet			
CULTURE, CIPROFLOXACIN RESISTANT E. COLI, RECTAL SWAB	87046L	Rectal Swab (Eswab), See LabNet			
CULTURE, DIALYSIS ENVIRONMENTAL	N/A	Includes dialysis water and dialysate, See LabNet			

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Culture	Health Connect Order Code	Other	Comments		
CULTURE, FUNGUS	87102E	See LabNet for acceptable specimens	Send to Regional Laboratory		
	Physician collect	Cornea/Cornea scrapings: direct inoculation onto IMA/SABHI media			IMA/SABHI can be requested from SWL
NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE SCREENING CULTURE	87081B	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			
CULTURE, GENITAL	87070H	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			
CULTURE, GROUP B STREP	87081C	Specimens from females only, See Labnet			
LEGIONELLA SPECIES SCREENING CULTURE	87081E	See LabNet for acceptable specimens	Send on ice to Regional Laboratory		
MRSA Surveillance Culture	87081ZAH	See LabNet for acceptable specimens	Send to Regional Laboratory		
CULTURE, NOCARDIA	87116D	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			
CULTURE, NON STERILE SITE	87070ZZH	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			
STAPH AUREUS SCREEN, CULTURE	87081ZAN	Eswab: axilla, nares, groin, rectal, throat, See LabNet			
Culture, Stool	Inactive	Use Bacterial GI PCR Panel 87505A			
CULTURE, AEROMONAS AND PLESIOMONAS	87046M	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			
CULTURE, VIBRIO	87046J	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			
CULTURE, YERSINIA	87046B	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			
CULTURE, THROAT (RO)	87081D	Send swab if negative screen test			
Culture, VRE screening	87081ZAW	See LabNet for acceptable specimens			

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Operations Director Approval

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
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Medical Director Approval

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
Mark Taira (P161328)	CLIA Director	21 May 2025, 08:08:31 PM	Approved