

ERCP & Linear EUS Scope Surveillance Cultures

Purpose

Reprocessed endoscopes should be free of microbial pathogens except for small numbers of relatively avirulent microbes that represent exogenous environmental contamination (e.g., coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus*, *Bacillus* species, diphtheroids). The following pathogens are of high concern because they indicate colonic flora has survived the cleaning and disinfection process. They will be identified: Enterobacteriaceae, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Enterococcus* spp.

Specimen Processing

The endoscopy department will send two samples to the designated lab for each accession. They will have an identifier for the scope that was tested and the **sample location** (“swab”(will contain a swab), “brush” (container will not have a brush in it)).

Microbiology

1. Accession the test.
2. Incubate tubes at 35-37°C.

Broth Culture Work-up

1. Examine broths for turbidity.
If all broths are clear at 24 hours, re-incubate at 35-37°C for an additional day.
2. If a broth is turbid, subculture the broth to Blood Agar and MacConkey Agar plates.
Do not issue a preliminary result. Note which broth is cloudy.
 - a. Examine the MacConkey agar for Gram-negative rods.
 - Perform ID and susceptibility according to microbiology standard operating procedures (SOP).
 - Rule out multidrug resistant organisms (MDRO).
 - b. Examine the Blood Agar for *Staph aureus* and *Enterococcus* species.
 - Perform ID and susceptibility testing according to microbiology standard operating procedures (SOP).
 - Rule out MRSA and/or VRE if present.
 - c. Freeze ALL potentially pathogenic isolates of high concern (see above).
 - d. Report using facility-specific verbiage:
 - Potentially pathogenic organisms are reported with susceptibility.
 - Organisms of low concern are collectively reported as “Environmental flora”

If any potentially pathogenic organisms are isolated, include the endoscope site (swab [SWAB] or brush [BRSH], as noted above).

Immediately call any culture positive for a high concern pathogen to Endoscopy and Infection Control. Provide verbal result including: organism, collection date, model/serial number of scope.