



Stanton Territorial Hospital
P.O. Box 10, 550 Byrne Road
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N1

Document Name:

STH Microbiology Laboratory-Specimen Collection Job Aid

Distribution:

Microbiology Administration Manual





Document Number:

MIC90210

Date Issued:

September 24, 2024

STH MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY TESTING

Test	Specimen Container			Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
Blood Culture NOTE: 2 sets of blood cultures are recommended. Each set should be drawn from a separate site.	BD BACTEC™ Blood Culture Bottles			Room temperature *Do not cool, freeze, or incubate	Transport specimens to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	NTHSSA Microbiology Requisition, Document number 41045-100.1_2024-09
	Aerobic (Blue top) 	Anaerobic (Purple top) 	Pediatric (Pink top) 			
Body Fluid Culture	60 mL Sterile container (Orange top) 			Room temperature		
	BD BACTEC™ Blood Culture bottles					

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
CSF Culture	Sterile screw top tubes (Clear top) 	Room temperature	Transport specimens to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	NTHSSA Microbiology Requisition, Document number 41045-100.1_2024-09
IUD Culture	60 mL Sterile container (Orange top)	Refrigerated		
Respiratory Culture				
Tip Culture				
Urine Culture	60 mL Sterile container (Orange top)	Refrigerated		
	Urine transport tube (Blue top) 	Room temperature or Refrigerated		

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
Ear Culture	<p>Sterile swab in C&S transport medium</p> <p>(Red top)</p>  <p>or</p> <p>(Pink top)</p> 	Room temperature	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	NTHSSA Microbiology Requisition, Document number 41045-100.1_2024-09
Eye Culture				
Nose Culture				
NOTE: Specimen examined for <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> only				
Oral Culture				
NOTE: Specimen examined for yeast only				
Throat Culture				
NOTE: Specimen examined for <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> only				
Superficial Wound Culture				
Deep Wound Culture				
Yeast Culture				
Genital Culture				

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Gonorrhea Culture NOTE: Specimen examined for <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> only	<p>Preferred: Charcoal swab (Black top)</p>  <p>Accepted: Sterile swab in C&S transport medium (Red top)</p>  <p>or</p> <p>(Pink top)</p> 	Room temperature	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	NTHSSA Microbiology Requisition, Document number 41045-100.1_2024-09

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Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) Screen NOTE: If patient is <13 years of age, processed as genital culture	Sterile swab in C&S transport medium (Red top) 	Room temperature	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	NTHSSA Microbiology Requisition, Document number 41045-100.1_2024-09
Trichomonas vaginalis Screen	or			
Group B Screen	(Pink top) 			
MRSA Screen				
MRO Screen				
VRE Screen				
C. difficile PCR	60 mL Sterile container (Orange top) 	Refrigerated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 24 hours if room temperature• 5 days if refrigerated	NTHSSA Microbiology Requisition, Document number 41045-100.1_2024-09

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> (MTB) PCR	60 mL Sterile container (Orange top)  *Minimum sample volume of 1 mL required for MTB PCR	Refrigerated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 days if room temperature• 10 days if refrigerated	NTHSSA Microbiology Requisition, Document number 41045-100.1_2024-09
COVID-19 PCR	Universal transport medium (UTM) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 hours if stored at room temperature• 7 days if stored refrigerated	NTHSSA COVID-19 and Other Respiratory Viruses Requisition, Document number 41045-200.1_2024-09
Respiratory Pathogen Panel (RPP)				

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APL MICROBIOLOGY REFERRED OUT TESTING

Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
Chlamydia/ Gonorrhea	<u>Throat, Rectum, Vagina</u> Aptima® Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit (orange label, pink swab) 	Room temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Swab in APTIMA transport tube stable for 60 days at 2 to 30Urine in APTIMA transport tube for 30 days at 2 to 30	Alberta Precision Laboratories Microbiology Requisition https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20571.pdf Document number 20571
	<u>Eye, Cervix, Urethra</u> Aptima® Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit (white label, blue swab) 			
	<u>Urine</u> Aptima® Urine Specimen Collection Kit (yellow label) 			

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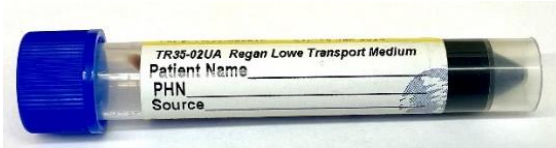

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
<i>Bordetella pertussis</i> (Whooping Cough)	Nasopharyngeal swab (nylon flocked/plastic shaft swab) placed into Regan Lowe Transport Medium (RLTM) 	Refrigerated		Alberta Precision Laboratories Serology and Molecular Testing Requisition https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20676.pdf Document number 20676
Fungal Culture	<u>Hair, Nails, Skin Scrapings</u> Fungal collection kit (Envelope contains folded black manila paper) 	Room temperature	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	Alberta Precision Laboratories Microbiology Requisition https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20571.pdf Document number 20571

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
Legionella NAAT	<p><u>Bronchial Alveolar Lavage (BAL)</u> 60 mL Sterile container (Orange top)</p>  <p>*Minimum sample volume of 1 mL required</p>	Refrigerated	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	<p>Alberta Precision Laboratories Serology and Molecular Testing Requisition</p> <p>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20676.pdf</p> <p>Document number 20676</p>
Mycobacteria Culture (Tuberculosis, AFB, TB)	<p><u>Sputum</u> 60 mL Sterile container (Orange top)</p>  <p>*Three sputum specimens of 5-10 mL each should be collected *Sputum specimens can be collected on the same day with a minimum of 1 hour separation between collections.</p>			<p>Alberta Precision Laboratories Bacteriology Requisition</p> <p>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20691.pdf</p> <p>Document number 20691</p>

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
Mycoplasma/Ureaplasma	<u>Cervix, Urethra, Vagina</u> Universal transport medium (UTM) 	Refrigerated	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	Alberta Precision Laboratories Bacteriology Requisition https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20691.pdf Document number 20691
Non-Respiratory Viral	Universal transport medium (UTM) 			Alberta Precision Laboratories Serology and Molecular Testing Requisition https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20676.pdf Document number 20676

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
Stool Bacterial Culture	60 mL Sterile container (Orange top) 	Refrigerated	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	Alberta Precision Laboratories Microbiology Requisition https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20571.pdf Document number 20571
Stool Ova and Parasite	SAF fixative preservative device (Yellow top container) 			

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Test	Specimen Container	Specimen Temperature	Specimen Stability	Requisition To Use
Tissue Culture	<p><u>Small Tissue</u> Anaerobic transport vial</p> 	Room temperature	Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection	<p>Alberta Precision Laboratories Microbiology Requisition</p> <p>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20571.pdf</p> <p>Document number 20571</p>
	<p><u>Large Tissue</u> 60 mL Sterile container (Orange top) WITH non-bacteriostatic saline</p> 			

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