




MICROBIOLOGY COLLECTION QUICK REFERENCE

It is extremely important to collect and transport the specimen properly so the laboratory can recover a pathogen. It is important to identify the source of the culture because growing conditions and tests to identify pathogens are specific. For additional assistance, consult the Interpath Laboratory Service Manual, Specimen Collection section, or call Client Services at (800) 700-6891. Additionally, if the patient is immunocompromised, please note this information on the requisition as well.

Test	Source	Collection Device		Submission Requirements
Aerobic Cultures	Eye/Ear, Genital, Throat and Superficial Wounds	 Order #101298	Sterile Culturette Swab (Red Top)	Room Temperature
Group B, PCR	Genital			Room Temperature
MRSA, PCR	Nasal			Refrigerated
MRSA/MSSA, PCR	Nasal			Refrigerated
Anaerobic Cultures	Deep Wounds, Abscesses and Body Fluids	 Order #101239	Anaerobic Culturette Swab (Blue Top) -or- Aspiration in a Sterile Urine Container -or- Syringe NO NEEDLES	Room Temperature
AFB Culture/ TB, PCR	“Deep” Sputum	 Order #101515	Sterile Container (Such as Urine Container)	Refrigerated
Fungus Cultures	Skin Scrapings, Hair, Toenails, Etc.			Room Temperature
Sputum Culture	“Deep” Sputum			Refrigerated (Stable 24 hours)
Urine Culture	Clean Catch -or- Catheterized Specimens			Refrigerated
Affirm DNA Panel (Candida, Trichomonas, Gardnerella)	Genital	 Order #103347	Affirm Kit	Room Temperature -or- Refrigerated
Bordetella Pertussis DNA	Nasopharyngeal	 Order #101442	Sterile NP Swab (Green Top)	Room Temperature Ambient
Rapid Influenza A/B RNA	Nasal	 Order #103324	Culturette – Dry Transport Swab (White Top)	Refrigerated
Viral Cultures: Herpes, RSV, Etc.	Nasopharyngeal, Throat, Nasal Aspirate, Vaginal, Urethral, Etc.	 Order #102928	Swab Submitted in Viral Transport Media (VTM) DO NOT USE WOODEN SWABS (Pre-Made Kit with Instructions)	Refrigerated

Test	Source	Collection Device		Submission Requirements
Chlamydia / Gonorrhea (GC/CT) NAAT	Endocervical/Male Urethral	 Order #100283	Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit	Room Temperature -or- Refrigerated
Chlamydia / Gonorrhea / Trichomonas / Bacterial Vaginosis / Candida species (GC/CT/TV//BV/CV) NAAT - truSwab	Vaginal sample – Clinician or Patient collected. Throat, Rectal or Vaginal swab (GC/CT only).	 Order #100284	Aptima Multitest Swab Collection Kit	Room Temperature -or- Refrigerated
Chlamydia / Gonorrhea / Trichomonas (GC/CT/TV) NAAT	Urine	 Order #100282	Aptima Urine Collection Kit	Room Temperature -or- Refrigerated
Stool Culture	Stool	 Order #101630	Stool Culture in Enteric Transport Media (ETM) -or- Stool on Sterile Culturette Swab (Place Fresh Stool in Preservative within 2 Hours of Collection.)	Room Temperature (Stool Culture)
Shiga Toxin			Shiga Toxin in Enteric Transport Media (ETM)	Refrigerated
O&P (Ova & Parasites)	Stool	 Order #101635	Stool in <u>Para-Set</u> O&P (Ova & Parasites) Kit (PVA and 10% Formalin)	Room Temperature
Cryptosporidium			Fresh Stool in Sterile Container (Place Fresh Stool in Preservative within 2 Hours of Collection.) -or- 10% Formalin From O&P (Ova & Parasites) -or- Enteric Transport Media (ETM)	Refrigerated Room Temperature
			Giardia Direct Antigen	Fresh Stool in Sterile Container (Place Fresh Stool in Preservative within 2 Hours of Collection.) -or- 10% Formalin From O&P (Ova & Parasites) -or- Enteric Transport Media (ETM)
C.Difficile, PCR				Stool
Rotavirus	Fresh Stool in Sterile Container -or- Fecal-Laden Swab	Refrigerated		
Fecal Fat (Qualitative)	Fresh Stool in Sterile Container	Refrigerated		
Fecal Red. Substance	Fresh Stool in Sterile Container	Refrigerated		
Fecal Ph	Fresh Stool in Sterile Container	Refrigerated		
Fecal Leukocytes (WBC)	Fresh Stool -or- 10% Formalin, PVA, Enteric Transport Media (ETM)	Refrigerated Room Temperature		
Norwalk Virus	Fresh Stool in Sterile Container	Frozen		
Pinworm	Stool	 Order #101466	Pinworm Paddles	Room Temperature