









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	Room Temperature	
Group B, PCR	Genital		Refrigerated	
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	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	
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 / *Trichomonas / Bacterial Vaginosis / Candida species / Mycoplasma genitalium / HSV 1 and 2 truSwab (can include GC/CT/TV/BV/CV/M.gen)	Vaginal sample – Clinician or Patient collected Throat and Rectal (GC/CT only) Anogenital lesion (HSV 1 & 2 only)	 Order #100284	Room Temperature -or- Refrigerated
Mycoplasma genitalium (Male Only) *Trichomonas	Penile meatal Vaginal Only		
Chlamydia / Gonorrhea / Trichomonas / Mycoplasma genitalium (GC/CT/TV) NAAT	Male and Female Urine	 Order #100282	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.)
Shiga Toxin			Shiga Toxin in Enteric Transport Media (ETM)
O&P (Ova & Parasites)	Stool	 Order #101635	Stool in <u>Para-Set</u> O&P (Ova & Parasites) Kit (PVA and 10% Formalin)
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)
			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)
	Room Temperature		
C.Difficile, PCR	Stool	 Order #101515	2 Grams Fresh Stool in Sterile Container
Rotavirus			Fresh Stool in Sterile Container -or- Fecal-Laden Swab
Fecal Fat (Qualitative)			Fresh Stool in Sterile Container
Fecal Red. Substance			Fresh Stool in Sterile Container
Fecal Ph			Fresh Stool in Sterile Container
Fecal Leukocytes (WBC)			Fresh Stool -or- 10% Formalin, PVA, Enteric Transport Media (ETM)
			Refrigerated
Norwalk Virus			Fresh Stool in Sterile Container
	Frozen		
Pinworm	Stool	 Order #101466	Room Temperature