

Miscellaneous/Sterility Culture Collections

Source	Test Name	Additional Names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information / Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Allograft Bone/ Tissue	C&S (Routine Culture)		Post transplant infection.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUTISSUE/ Tissue C&S Order includes Gram stain and culture including anaerobic investigation	
Allograft Bone/ Tissue	Sterility Culture	Bone Bank	Sterility culture of purchased bone or tissue (e.g. heart valves, meniscus, tendons, corneas) submitted to lab just prior to transplant. Submit small portion of bone or tissue in sterile saline. Alternately the identification tag or storage solution can be submitted. Swabs of bone or tissue are sub-optimal.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUORIMPLANT/ OR Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Autograft Bone/ Tissue	C&S (Routine Culture)		Post transplant infection.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUTISSUE/ Tissue C&S Order includes Gram stain and culture including anaerobic investigation	
Autograft Bone/ Tissue	Sterility Culture	Bone Bank	Sterility culture of bone or skin harvested from a donor for personal use in a future surgery. Sterility cultures are performed immediately upon harvest, and then again just prior to transplant back into patient. Submit small portion of bone or tissue in sterile saline.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUORIMPLANT/ OR Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Blood Products	Sterility Culture	Transfusion Reaction	Transfusion or febrile reaction: Return blood/product bag to Transfusion Services.	Blood/product bag	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: Orderable only by LAB: Transfusion or Febrile Reaction CUTRNRXN/ Transfusion Rxn Culture (* Order is placed by transfusion department on the actual unit or product number) Sterility check: CUENVIRO/ Sterility Specimen Culture	

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Cardiac Implanted Device	C&S (Routine Culture)		Includes pacemakers or implanted cardiac defibrillator (ICD). Specimen submitted may be actual device, or pacemaker leads or wires from sternal closure.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUORIMPLANT/ OR Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Heart Valve/ Cardiac Wash	Sterility Culture		Sterility culture of purchased heart valve taken just prior to transplant. Submit small portion of tissue or identification tag in sterile saline. Alternately the final wash of the valve can be submitted.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUORIMPLANT/ OR Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Contact Lens	C&S (Routine Culture)		Submit contact lens in lens case or contact lens solution.	Contact lenses in contact lens case or Contact lens solution	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: Orderable only by LAB: CUENVIRO/ Sterility Specimen Culture	
Contact Lens	Parasite Exam/Identification	Acanthamoeba	Submit contact lens in lens case or contact lens solution.	Contact lenses in contact lens case or Contact lens solution	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: ACANTHAMOEB/ Parasite-Acanthamoeba Contact microbiology lab or microbiologist with patient information as BCCDC will be alerted to pending arrival of specimen had have media prepared	Complete PHSA Laboratories Parasitology Requisition
Cornea rim (Donor)	Sterility Culture		Sterility culture of purchased donor corneas collected just prior to transplant.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUORIMPLANT/ OR Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Dialysate Water (Hemodialysis)	Sterility Culture		Water samples from hemodialysis machines are submitted for sterility culture.	Millipore sampler or MicropreSure sampler device	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: Orderable only by LAB: CUENVIRO/ Sterility Specimen Culture	
CNS Shunt/ICP/ VP Shunt	C&S (Routine Culture)		Submit shunt or ICP in sterile screw cap container	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUIMPLANT/ Implant/Medical Device C&S	

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Intrauterine Device	C&S (Routine Culture)	Actinomyces	Submit actual device in sterile screw cap container	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUIMPLANT/ Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Laboratory Water	Colony count	Sterility testing	Aseptically collect 30 mL and submit to Microbiology. If this is a new water source, register the in the census facility.	Sterile screw cap container	Transport to Microbiology as soon as possible	Orderable only by LAB: CUENVIRO/ Sterility Specimen Culture	
Nuclear Medicine solution	Sterility Culture		Submit vials to microbiology lab after solutions are safe to handle (radioactivity at safe level)	Original vial	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: Orderable only by LAB: CUENVIRO/ Sterility Specimen Culture	
Orthopedic hardware	C&S (Routine Culture)		Includes cement from joint revisions, screws or pins from bone reconstruction, pieces of joint reconstruction material (titanium, surgical steel, or plastic). pieces of skull plate. Submit specimen in sterile screw cap container.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUORIMPLANT/ OR Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Pharmacy solutions	Sterility Culture		Submit vials to microbiology lab after solutions are safe to handle (radioactivity at safe level)	Original vial	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: Orderable only by LAB: CUENVIRO/ Sterility Specimen Culture	
Prosthetic Device	Tissue specimens recommended		Includes implanted devices such as prosthetic valves, implants, grafts, artificial eyes, joints, lenses and meshes. Submit specimen in sterile screw cap container.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUORIMPLANT/ OR Implant/Medical Device C&S	
Tick	Parasite Exam/Identification	Borrelia (Lyme Disease) Ectoparasites	Dead tick: Submit dry or in 70% alcohol Live tick: Submit with a slightly moistened cotton.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: PARAID/ Parasite-Tick Identification	Complete PHSA Laboratories Parasitology Requisition

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Blood (Autopsy)	Blood Culture	Autopsy Culture	Ideally specimen should be collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Aseptically collect up to 10 mL blood and transfer into aerobic blood culture bottle.	Aerobic Bottle: BacT/ALERT FA (green)	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUBLOOD/ Blood C&S - Venipuncture Full work-up performed only on specimens collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Specimens received after 48 hours will only receive minimal workup.	
Blood (Autopsy)	Fungal Culture	Blastomyces Coccidioides Cryptococcus Dimorphic fungi Histoplasma	Minimum 5 ml of blood collected into SPS tube. SPS is preferred anticoagulant but citrate or heparin are acceptable Clotted blood is unacceptable for fungal examination	SPS or heparin tube	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: MYCBLOOD/ Fungus-Blood/Bone Marrow If Blastomyces, Coccidioides, Histoplasma or Paracoccidioides suspected, consult microbiologist before collecting specimen.	Complete PHSA Laboratories Bacteriology & Mycology Requisition
Blood (Autopsy)	Mycobacterium (TB) Culture	AFB Culture TB Culture	Minimum 5 ml of blood collected into SPS tube. SPS is preferred anticoagulant but citrate or heparin are acceptable	SPS or heparin tube	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: TBBLOOD/ TB/Mycobacteria-Blood/Bone Mar	Complete PHSA Laboratories Mycobacteria/TB Requisition
Fluid (Autopsy)	C&S (Routine Culture)	Autopsy Culture	Ideally specimen should be collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Aseptically aspirated fluid. Submit as much fluid as possible.	Sterile screw cap container Do NOT submit specimen in a syringe	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUFLUID- Fluid/Aspirate C&S Full work-up performed only on specimens collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Specimens received after 48 hours will only receive minimal workup.	
Fluid (Autopsy)	Fungal Culture	Blastomyces Coccidioides Cryptococcus Dimorphic fungi Histoplasma	Ideally specimen should be collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Submit as much tissue as possible.	Sterile screw cap container Do NOT submit specimen in a syringe	Critical specimen: Transport to lab ASAP. Room temperature storage. Do NOT refrigerate.	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: MYCFLUID/ Fungus-Fluid/Aspirate	IH West/IH East sites: Complete PHSA Laboratories Bacteriology & Mycology Requisition

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Fluid (Autopsy)	Mycobacterium(TB) Culture	AFB Culture TB Culture	Ideally specimen should be collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Submit as much tissue as possible.	Sterile screw cap container Do NOT submit specimen in a syringe	Store refrigerated (4°C) Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: TBFLUID/ TB/Mycobacteria-Fluid/Aspirate	Complete PHSA Laboratories Mycobacteria/TB Requisition
Tissue (Autopsy)	C&S (Routine Culture)	Autopsy Culture	Ideally specimen should be collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Submit as much tissue as possible.	Sterile screw cap container.		LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUTISSUE/ Tissue C&S Full work-up performed only on specimens collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Specimens received after 48 hours will only receive minimal workup.	
Tissue (Autopsy)	Fungal Culture	Blastomyces Coccidioides Cryptococcus Dimorphic fungi Histoplasma	Ideally specimen should be collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Submit as much tissue as possible.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: MYCTISSUE/ Fungus-Tissue/Biopsy If Blastomyces, Coccidioides, Histoplasma or Paracoccidioides suspected, consult microbiologist before collecting specimen.	IH West/IH East sites: Complete PHSA Laboratories Bacteriology & Mycology Requisition
Tissue (Autopsy)	Mycobacterium(TB) Culture	AFB Culture TB Culture	Ideally specimen should be collected and submitted within 48 hours of death. Submit as much tissue as possible.	Sterile screw cap container	Store refrigerated (4°C) Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: TBTISSUE/ TB/Mycobacteria-Tissue/Biopsy	Complete PHSA Laboratories Mycobacteria/TB Requisition
Miscellaneous Fluids	C&S (Routine Culture)		Includes miscellaneous fluids such breast milk, prostatic secretions, semen samples.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab as soon as possible	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUFLUID- Fluid/Aspirate C&S Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Food remnants	Clostridium botulinum toxin detection/ culture	Botulism, infant botulism	Food remnants in original container or in sterile screw cap container. Collect at least 200 g (8 oz) of food. ** Contact IH Microbiologist – must be approved**	Sterile screw cap container or original packaging	Store refrigerated (4°C) Transport to lab as soon as possible on ice (do not freeze unless food item is already frozen)	LAB Order Mnemonic: CLOBOTI Orderable by lab only	Complete PHSA Food Poisoning requisition part A and part B