

Surface Wound Culture Collections

Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Catheter Insert/Exit Site (Vascular)	C&S (Routine Culture)		Swab of vascular catheter insertion/exit site. Vascular catheters include: arterial, broviac, central Line, CVP, hemodialysis, hickman, jugular, PICC, subclavian.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUCATHSITE/ Catheter Site (Vascular)C&S Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Catheter Insert/Exit Site (Vascular)	Candida/Yeast Culture		Swab of vascular catheter insertion/exit site. Vascular catheters include: arterial, broviac, central Line, CVP, hemodialysis, hickman, jugular, PICC, subclavian.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUCATHSITE/ Catheter Site (Vascular)C&S Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Catheter Insert/Exit Site (Vascular)	MRSA Screen (ARO)	Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus	Swab of vascular catheter insertion/exit site. Vascular catheters include: arterial, broviac, central Line, CVP, hemodialysis, hickman, jugular, PICC, subclavian.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUMRSAIV/ ARO MRSA IV Insertion Site Order includes screening culture for Methicillin Resistant strains of Staphylococcus aureus	
Catheter Insert/Exit Site (Vascular)	CPO Screen (ARO) (outbreak/exposure)	Carbapenemase producing organism	Swab of vascular catheter insertion/exit site. Vascular catheters include: arterial, broviac, central Line, CVP, hemodialysis, hickman, jugular, PICC, subclavian.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUCPOOUTBREAK/ARO CPO Xposure Order includes screening culture for Carbapenemase producing organisms	
Catheter Tip/Line (Vascular)	C&S (Routine Culture)		Clip 5cm off the distal tip of catheter using sterile scissors. Vascular catheters include: arterial, broviac, central Line, CVP, hemodialysis, hickman, jugular, PICC, subclavian.	Sterile screw cap container	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUIVLINE/ Catheter Tip (Vascular) C&S Order includes semi quantitative culture including Yeast (Candida) Accurate interpretation of catheter tip cultures is best if concurrent blood culture is taken at time of line removal.	

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Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Catheter Tip/Line (Vascular)	Candida/Yeast Culture		Clip 5cm off the distal tip of catheter using sterile scissors. Vascular catheters include: arterial, broviac, central Line, CVP, hemodialysis, hickman, jugular, PICC, subclavian.	Sterile screw cap container	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUIVLINE/ Catheter Tip (Vascular) C&S Order includes semi quantitative culture including Yeast (Candida) Accurate interpretation of catheter tip cultures is best if concurrent blood culture is taken at time of line removal.	
Catheter Insert /Exit Site (Non-Vascular)	C&S (Routine Culture)		Swab of non-vascular catheter ,tube or drain insertion or exit site. Non-vascular catheters include peritoneal, pigtail and technoff. Tube/Drain examples include axiom, chest, feeding (PEG), hemovac, G or J tube, malecot, penrose, saratoga, T-tube (biliary). If indwelling foley catheter insertion site, please see "Urethra"	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUCATHSITEN/ Catheter Site (NonVascular)C&S Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) If indwelling foley catheter insertion site, please see "Urethra"	
Catheter Insert/Exit Site (Non-Vascular)	Candida/Yeast Culture		Swab of non-vascular catheter ,tube or drain insertion or exit site. Non-vascular catheters include peritoneal, pigtail and technoff. If indwelling foley catheter insertion site, please see "Urethra"	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> CUCATHSITEN/ Catheter Site (NonVascular)C&S Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) If indwelling foley catheter insertion site, please see "Urethra"	

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Catheter Tip/Line (Non-Vascular)	C&S (Routine Culture)		<p>Tips of non-vascular catheters or drain tubes are not suitable specimens for culture, and will be rejected.</p> <p>Non-vascular catheters include peritoneal, pigtail and technoff. Tube/Drain examples include axiom, chest, feeding (PEG), hemovac, G or J tube, malecot, penrose, saratoga, T-tube (biliary).</p> <p>If a indwelling foley catheter tip, a urine specimen should be submitted</p>		No testing done		
Catheter Tip/Line (Non-Vascular)	Candida/Yeast Culture		<p>Tips of non-vascular catheters or drain tubes are not suitable specimens for culture, and will be rejected.</p> <p>Non-vascular catheters include peritoneal, pigtail and technoff. Tube/Drain examples include axiom, chest, feeding (PEG), hemovac, G or J tube, malecot, penrose, saratoga, T-tube (biliary).</p> <p>If a indwelling foley catheter tip, a urine specimen should be submitted</p>		No testing done		
Hair	Fungus (Dermatophytes)	Ringworm (Tinea)	Collect 10-12 affected hairs with the base of the shaft intact if possible.	Sterile screw cap container or paper dermatophyte collection kit	Refrigerate specimen (4°C) Transport to lab (at room temperature) within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: MYCHAIR/ Fungus- Hair	

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Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Hair	Parasite Exam/Identification	Lice		Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: PARASCLI/ Parasite-Scabies/Lice Exam	Complete PHSA Laboratories Parasitology Requisition
Nail/ Nail Clippings	Fungus (Dermatophytes)	Onychomycosis	Using gauze, wipe nail with 70% alcohol. Clip a generous portion of affected area.	Sterile screw cap container or paper dermatophyte collection kit	Refrigerate specimen (4°C) Transport to lab (at room temperature) within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: MYCNAIL/ Fungus- Nail/Nail Clippings	
Skin scrapings	Parasite Exam/Identification	Scabies	Skin scrapings from end of tracks	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: PARASCLI/ Parasite-Scabies/Lice Exam	Complete PHSA Laboratories Parasitology Requisition
Skin- Intact Skin Surface	C&S (Routine Culture)	Impetigo	Swab of skin surface that has had no break in skin integrity. Includes sources such as acne, boil, mild cellulitis, eczema, folliculitis, impetigo, lesion, phlebitis, rash, skin, skin fold.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUSKIN/ Wound C&S- Skin (Intact Surface) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Skin- Intact Skin Surface	Candida/Yeast Culture		Swab of skin surface that has had no break in skin integrity. Includes sources such as acne, boil, mild cellulitis, eczema, folliculitis, impetigo, lesion, phlebitis, rash, skin, skin fold.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUSKIN/ Wound C&S- Skin (Intact Surface) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Skin- Intact Skin Surface	MRSA Screen (ARO)	Methicillin Resistant Staph aureus	Swab of groin/perianal area. Using one swab, firmly swab both groins starting at the front of the groin area and extending right back almost to the anus.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUMRSAGROIN/ ARO MRSA Groin/Perianal Order includes screening culture for Methicillin Resistant strains of Staphylococcus aureus	

Surface Wound Culture Collections

Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Skin- Intact Skin Surface	Virus Detection/ PCR (NAAT)	Herpes Virus (HSV) Varicella Virus (VSV)	Includes vesicular lesions on skin in genital region. Unroof the lesion with a tuberculin syringe or broken edge of a sterile swab shaft. Swab the broken blister and place swab into transport media. Alternately, the contents of the lesion may be aspirated with the syringe and transferred directly to the vile of transport medium.	UTM Universal Transport Medium for Virus	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> VIRSKIN/ Virus Detection Skin/Lesion Order includes detection of Herpes (HSV) and Varicella (VSV) viruses If smallpox or vaccinia suspected, contact a microbiologist immediately	Complete PHSA Laboratories Virology Requisition
Skin- Intact Skin Surface	Virus Detection/ PCR (NAAT)	Poxvirus Vaccinia Smallpox	Consult with microbiologist	UTM Universal Transport Medium for Virus	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> VIRSKIN/ Virus Detection Skin/Lesion/Wound If smallpox or vaccinia suspected, contact a microbiologist immediately	Complete PHSA Laboratories Virology Requisition
Skin Scrapings	Fungus (Dermatophytes)	Athlete's Foot Malassezia Ringworm (Tinea) Jock Itch	Cleanse the skin with 70% alcohol to reduce bacterial contamination. Gently scrape the skin surface at the active margin on the lesion. Do not draw blood. If scalp, gently scraping with a sterile toothbrush or small brush works well.	Sterile screw cap container or paper dermatophyte collection kit	Refrigerate specimen (4°C) Transport to lab (at room temperature) within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> MYCSKIN/ Fungus- Skin Scrapings	
Skin Scrapings	Parasite Exam/Identification	Scabies	Scabies investigation: Add one or two drops mineral oil to suspected lesion, using sterile scalpel blade or microscope slide, scrape skin vigorously to remove top of papule and expose end of tract. Alternately mount scrapings between two slides with mineral oil.	Sterile screw cap container	Store at room temperature Transport to lab within 12 hrs	<u>LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name:</u> PARASCLI/ Parasite-Scabies/Lice Exam	Complete PHSA Laboratories Parasitology Requisition

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Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Tube/ Drain Insertion/Exit Site	C&S (Routine Culture)		Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Use swab to collect exudate/pus. Avoid touching skin/catheter/drain with swab. Tube/Drain site examples include axiom, chest, feeding (PEG), hemovac, G or J tube, malecot, penrose, saratoga, T-tube (biliary).	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUTUBESITE/ Wound C&S- Tube/Drain Site Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Tube/Drain Insertion/Exit Site	Candida/Yeast Culture		Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Use swab to collect exudate/pus. Avoid touching skin/catheter /drain with swab. Tube/Drain site examples include axiom, chest, feeding (PEG), hemovac, G or J tube, malecot, penrose, saratoga, T-tube (biliary).	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUTUBESITE/ Wound C&S- Tube/Drain Site Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Ulcer	C&S (Routine Culture)		Site preparation is critical to proper culture interpretation Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Swab the deepest portion or active margin of wound. Avoid touching contaminating skin with swab.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUWOUNDU/ Wound C&S- Ulcer/Chronic Wound Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Please indicate type of ulcer e.g. decubitus, diabetic. Consult microbiologist if genital ulcer and Hemophilus ducreyi (Chancroid) requested	

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Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Ulcer	Candida/Yeast Culture		Site preparation is critical to proper culture interpretation Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Swab the deepest portion or active margin of wound. Avoid touching contaminating skin with swab.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUWOUNDU/ Wound C&S-Ulcer/Chronic Wound Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Please indicate type of ulcer e.g. decubitus, diabetic	
Wound- Ulcer	C&S (Routine Culture)		Site preparation is critical to proper culture interpretation Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Swab the deepest portion or active margin of wound. Avoid touching contaminating skin with swab. If Anthrax or Francisella (Tularemia) is suspected, consult microbiologist before collecting specimen, as special laboratory precautions are required.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUWOUNDU/ Wound C&S-Ulcer/Chronic Wound Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Please indicate type of ulcer e.g. decubitus, diabetic Consult microbiologist if genital ulcer and Hemophilus ducreyi (Chanchroid) requested	
Wound- Ulcer	Candida/Yeast Culture		Site preparation is critical to proper culture interpretation Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Swab the deepest portion or active margin of wound. Avoid touching contaminating skin with swab.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUWOUNDU/ Wound C&S-Ulcer/Chronic Wound Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Please indicate type of ulcer e.g. decubitus, diabetic	

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Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Wound- Abscess (Pus) Swab	C&S (Routine Culture)	Tonsillar abscess (Quinsy)	Proper preparation of site prior to specimen collection is critical for accurate culture interpretation. Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Pass swab deep into lesion, firmly sampling the advancing margin. Swabs are suboptimal specimens. Aspirated pus is specimen of choice.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUABSCCESS/ Wound C&S- Abscess/Pus (Swab) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Anaerobic culture will be done on aspirated specimens	
Wound- Abscess (Pus) Swab	Candida/Yeast Culture		Proper preparation of site prior to specimen collection is critical for accurate culture interpretation. Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Pass swab deep into lesion, firmly sampling the advancing margin. Swabs are suboptimal specimens. Aspirated pus is specimen of choice.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUABSCCESS/ Wound C&S- Abscess/Pus (Swab) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Anaerobic culture will be done on aspirated specimens	
Wound- Skin Broken Surface	C&S (Routine Culture)		Swab of skin surface that has lost some skin integrity including sources such as abrasion, blister, carbuncle, laceration, hematoma, insect bite, superficial burns and ulcers. Site preparation is critical to culture interpretation. Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Swab the deepest portion or active margin of wound. Avoid touching swab to contaminating skin.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUWOUND/ Wound C&S- Skin (Broken Surface) If specimen collected from an ulcer CUWOUNDU/ Wound C&S- Ulcer/Chronic Wound Both orders includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Please indicate source of wound and any relevant clinical history	

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Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Wound- Skin Broken Surface	Candida/Yeast Culture		Swab of skin surface that lost some skin integrity including sources such as abrasion, blister, carbuncle, laceration, hematoma, insect bite, superficial burns and ulcers. Site preparation is critical to proper culture interpretation. Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Swab the deepest portion or active margin of wound. Avoid touching contaminating skin with swab.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUWOUND/ Wound C&S- Skin (Broken Surface) If specimen collected from an ulcer CUWOUNDU/ Wound C&S- Ulcer/Chronic Wound Both orders includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Please indicate source of wound and any relevant clinical history	
Wound- Skin Broken Surface	MRSA Screen (ARO)	Methicillin Resistant Staph aureus	Swab of <u>one</u> open draining wound.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUMRSAWOUND/ ARO MRSA Open Wound Order includes screening culture for Methicillin Resistant strains of Staphylococcus aureus	
Wound- Skin Broken Surface	CPO Screen (ARO) (outbreak/exposure))	Carbapenemase producing organism	Swab of <u>one</u> open draining wound.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUCPOOUTBREAK/ARO CPO Xposure Order includes screening culture for Carbapenemase producing organisms	
Wound- Skin Intact Surface	C&S (Routine Culture)	Impetigo	Swab of skin surface that has had no break in skin integrity. Includes sources such as acne, boil, mild cellulitis, eczema, folliculitis, impetigo, lesion, phlebitis, rash, skin, skin fold.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUSKIN/ Wound C&S- Skin (Intact Surface) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Wound- Skin Intact Surface	Candida/Yeast Culture		Swab of skin surface that has had no break in skin integrity. Includes sources such as acne, boil, mild cellulitis, eczema, folliculitis, impetigo, lesion, phlebitis, rash, skin, skin fold.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUSKIN/ Wound C&S- Skin (Intact Surface) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	

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Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Wound- Skin Intact Surface	MRSA Screen (ARO)	Methicillin Resistant Staph aureus	Submit individual swab of each open draining wound site	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUMRSAGROIN/ ARO MRSA Groin/Perianal Order includes screening culture for Methicillin Resistant strains of Staphylococcus aureus	
Wound- Skin Broken Surface	MRSA Screen (ARO)	Methicillin Resistant Staph aureus	Swab of <u>one</u> open draining wound.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUMRSAWOUND/ ARO MRSA Open Wound Order includes screening culture for Methicillin Resistant strains of Staphylococcus aureus	
Abscess (Pus) Swab	C&S (Routine Culture)	Quinsy (Tonsillar abscess)	Proper preparation of site prior to specimen collection is critical for accurate culture interpretation. Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Pass swab deep into lesion, firmly sampling the advancing margin. Swabs are suboptimal specimens. Aspirated pus is specimen of choice.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUABSCCESS/ Wound C&S- Abscess/Pus (Swab) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Anaerobic culture will be done on aspirated specimens	
Abscess (Pus) Swab	Candida/Yeast Culture		Proper preparation of site prior to specimen collection is critical for accurate culture interpretation. Cleanse site, wiping away any surface exudate with sterile saline. Pass swab deep into lesion, firmly sampling the advancing margin. Swabs are suboptimal specimens. Aspirated pus is specimen of choice.	Swab in clear transport media	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUABSCCESS/ Wound C&S- Abscess/Pus (Swab) Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida) Anaerobic culture will be done on aspirated specimens	

Surface Wound Culture Collections

Source	Test Name	Additional names	Specimen Requirements	Collection Container	Processing Information/ Transport	Additional Information	Additional Requisitions
Fluid- Drainage Tube	C&S (Routine Culture)		Includes drain material from axiom tube, chest tube, gastric, pigtail, hemovac, JP drain, malecot, penrose, saratoga, T-tube. Aseptically collect fluid from disinfected drainage tube. Do not collect specimen that has pooled into the collection reservoir.	Sterile screw cap container Do NOT submit specimen in a syringe	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUFLUIDD/ Fluid/Aspirate C&S- PO Drain Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	
Fluid- Drainage Tube	Candida/Yeast Culture		Includes drain material from axiom tube, chest tube, gastric, pigtail, hemovac, JP drain, malecot, penrose, saratoga, T-tube. Aseptically collect fluid from disinfected drainage tube. Do not collect specimen that has pooled into the collection reservoir.	Sterile screw cap container Do NOT submit specimen in a syringe	** Refrigerate specimen (4°C)** Transport to lab within 12 hrs	LAB Order Mnemonic/ OM Order Name: CUFLUIDD/ Fluid/Aspirate C&S- PO Drain Order includes Gram stain and culture including Yeast (Candida)	