







# Body Fluid Sample Protocols

## Special considerations for Body Fluid Analysis (excluding CSF):

For Cerebral Spinal Fluid Protocol, Refer to [CSF](#)





- Each test grouping below requires a separate container.
- Place sample into designated container and complete [Labelling](#) at the patient bedside.
- Test requests must indicate fluid type and/or body site.
- Hand-deliver all samples to the laboratory as soon as collected as they are time-sensitive.
- The physician must indicate priority of testing if there is insufficient sample volume to complete all tests requested.

## Body Fluid Samples

Hematology & Chemistry Test Orders		
Inpatients - Enter into Meditech		
Outpatients - Submit a <a href="#">Completed Interior Health Requisition</a>		
Test	Container	Comments
<b>Cell Count (WBC, RBC) and diff</b>	Lavender K2EDTA tube  Add minimum 1 mL sample to tube	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add fluid immediately upon collection</li> <li>• Mix by inverting tube slowly 8 times to prevent clotting</li> </ul>
<b>Crystals</b>	Lavender K2EDTA tube  Add minimum 1 mL sample to tube	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add fluid immediately upon collection</li> <li>• Mix by inverting tube slowly 8 times to prevent clotting</li> </ul>
<b>Flow Cytometry</b>	2 Lavender K2EDTA 6mL tubes  Add minimum 5 mL to each tube	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pathologist Consult and Flow Cytometry requisition required</li> </ul>
<b>Chemistry tests</b>	No additive tube  OR Green LiHep without gel separator  OR Sterile container  Add minimum 2 mL to one of the above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use sterile container for larger volumes</li> </ul>
<b>Fluid pH</b>	Heparinized syringe Minimum 0.5mL in syringe, no air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect anaerobically</li> <li>• Keep on ice until testing performed</li> <li>• Must be analyzed within 60 minutes</li> </ul>

**Microbiology Test Order Mnemonics: [Microbiology Fluid Specimens Job Aid](#)**

**Additional information: [Complete Guide to Fluid Specimen Ordering](#)**

<p><b>Fluid Culture</b></p>	<p>Sterile container</p>  <p>OR</p> <p>Add minimum 1-2 mL</p>	
<p><b>Mycobacteriology (TB) Culture</b> <a href="#">BCCDC TB Requisition</a> required</p>	<p>Sterile container</p>  <p>Add minimum 1-2 mL</p>	
<p><b>Mycology (Fungal) Culture</b> <a href="#">BCCDC Fungus Requisition</a> required</p>	<p>Sterile container</p>  <p>Add minimum 1-2 mL</p>	
<p><b>Cytology Requests require an <a href="#">IH Cytology Consultation Request Form</a>. Testing is not orderable through the hospital computer system.</b></p>		
<p><b>Cytology</b></p>	<p>Sterile container</p>  <p>Add minimum 10 mL sample to container. If there is a delay of more than 4 hours, add fixative and refrigerate. The date/time of both collection AND fixation is required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to above requisition link or the <a href="#">Cytology Home Page</a> for additional information</li> <li>• Use Cytolyt and 10% Formalin (KGH) or 50% ethyl alcohol (RIH) for fixative (1 part fixative to 3 parts specimen)</li> <li>• Specimens processed at KGH that will not reach the lab within 4hrs: <u>Submit in two portions:</u> Cytolyt (30 mL pre-filled blue lid) 10% formalin ( 60 mL prefilled white lid)</li> </ul>

OR



AND

Add minimum 10 mL to each container.  
This container already contains fixative.

- If less than 20 mL total sample volume, submit entire sample in Cytolyt.