







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

Microbiology Test Order Mnemonics: [Microbiology Guide to Specimen Ordering Collection and Transport](#)

<p>Fluid Culture</p>	<p>Sterile container</p>  <p>OR</p> <p>Add minimum 1-2 mL</p>	
<p>Mycobacteriology (TB) Culture BCCDC TB Requisition required</p>	<p>Sterile container</p>  <p>Add minimum 1-2 mL</p>	
<p>Mycology (Fungal) Culture BCCDC Fungus Requisition required</p>	<p>Sterile container</p>  <p>Add minimum 1-2 mL</p>	

**Cytology Requests require an [IH Cytology Consultation Request Form](#).
Testing is not orderable through the hospital computer system.**

<p>Cytology</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"> • Refer to above requisition link or the Cytology Home Page for additional information • Use Cytolyt and 10% Formalin (KGH) or 50% ethyl alcohol (RIH) for fixative (1 part fixative to 3 parts specimen) • 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)
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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.