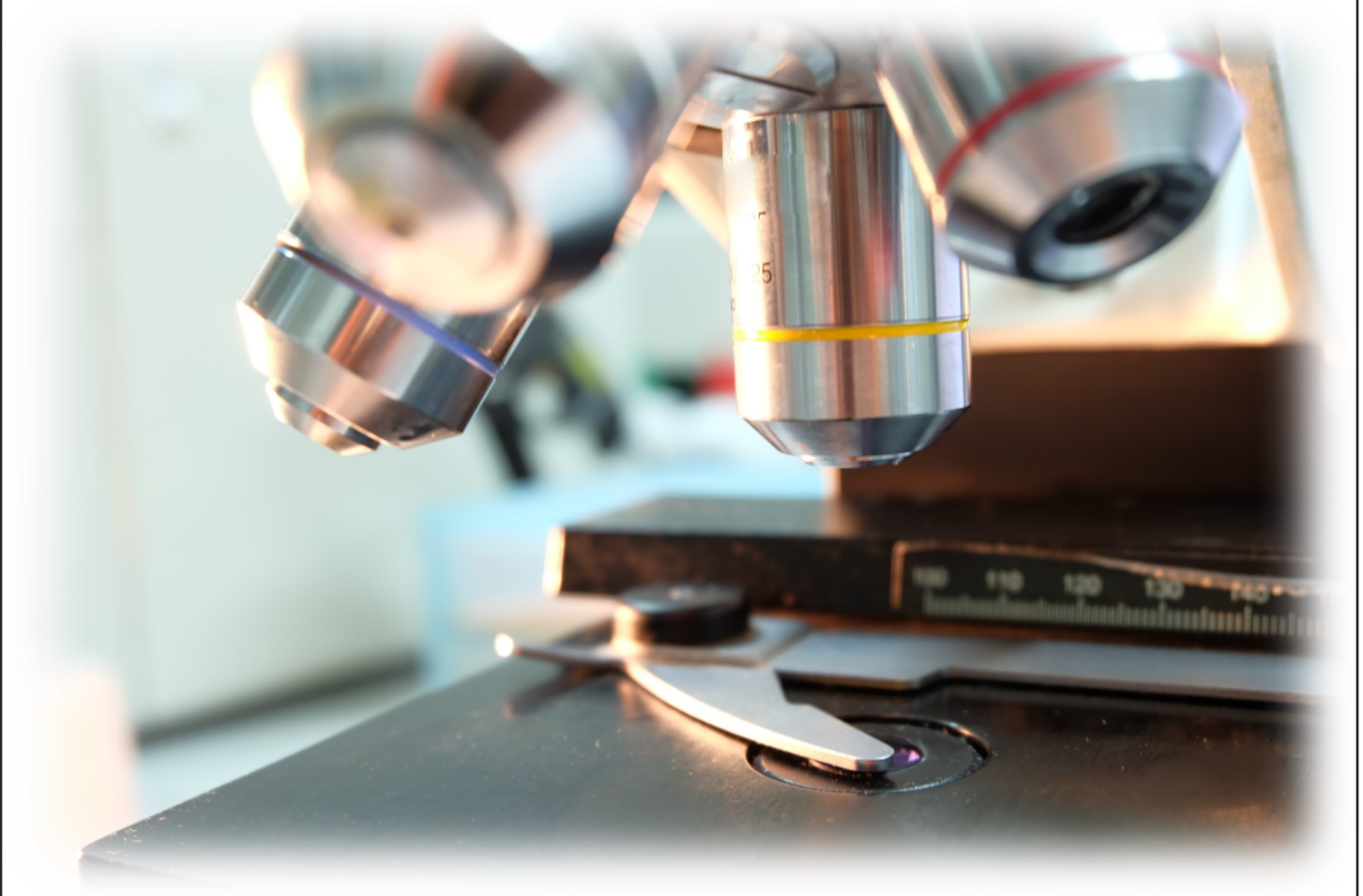




Microbiology / Molecular Specimen Collection and Transport Guide



CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATIS, NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE, TRICHOMONAS VAGINALIS

COBAS PCR SWAB SAMPLE KIT FOR ENDOCERVICAL, VAGINAL, RECTAL, AND THROAT SWAB SPECIMENS COBAS PCR URINE SPECIMEN COLLECTION KIT FOR MALE AND FEMALE URINE SPECIMENS HOLOGIC THINPREP LIQUID-BASED PAP VIAL

- USED FOR:** Chlamydia trachomatis, *Neisseria. gonorrhoeae*, Trichomonas vaginalis Nucleic Acid Amplified Testing (NAAT)
- NOTE:** C. trachomatis, *N. gonorrhoeae*, and T. vaginalis testing can be performed on same swab or urine specimen. T. vaginalis testing cannot be performed on throat or rectal specimens.
- DESCRIPTION:** **Cobas PCR Swab Sample Kit:** One specimen collection swab, one cleaning swab, and one tube containing cobas PCR swab transport medium all contained in a paper sleeve.
- Cobas PCR Urine Specimen Collection Kit:** One disposable transfer pipette, and one tube containing cobas urine transport medium all contained in a paper sleeve.
- Hologic ThinPrep Liquid-based PAP Vial:** One Papette (Blue Broom) or Plastic Spatula and Cytobrush and 1 PreservCyt Solution Vial.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:** See collection instructions.
- TRANSPORT:** **Swab:** Room temperature, transport within 1 year.
- Urine:** Urine in specimen cup: Refrigerated or room temperature, transport **within 24 hours**.
- Urine in Cobas PCR urine tube: Room temperature, transport within 1 year.
- ThinPrep Vial:** Room temperature, transport within 2 weeks.

Urine Specimen Collection Kit:

One disposable transfer pipette, and one tube containing cobas urine transport medium all contained in a paper sleeve.



Cobas PCR Swab Collection Kit:

One specimen collection swab, one cleaning swab, and one tube containing cobas PCR swab transport medium.



- Endocervical Thin-Prep Vial Collection
- Insert the brush into the endocervical canal until only the bottom most fibers are exposed.
 - Slowly rotate the brush $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ turn in one direction.
 - Do NOT over-rotate the brush.
 - Then, rotate the brush in the PreservCyt solution 10 times while pushing against the wall of the ThinPrep vial.
 - Swirl the brush vigorously to release additional material.
 - Discard the brush.
 - Obtain an adequate sample from the ectocervix using a plastic spatula.
 - Swirl the spatula vigorously in the PreservCyt vial 10 times and discard the spatula.
 - Tighten the cap on the ThinPrep vial until the cap passes the torque line.

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- Urine Specimen Collection
- NAAT testing requires collection of the specimen at the beginning of the urine stream or so called “**first catch**” urine.
 - Instruct patient not to urinate for **1 hour prior to collection**.
 - Collect the first 15 to 20 mL of the initial stream.
 - Transfer urine with the provided transfer pipette to the cobas PCR urine tube.
 - Fill tube so that urine is between the lines.
 - Cap tube tightly and invert the tube 5 times to mix before transporting.
 - If cobas PCR urine specimen collection kit is not available, transport urine in original specimen cup to the laboratory within 24 hours.
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- Endocervical Swab Specimen Collection
- Collecting an endocervical swab specimen for use in NAAT testing procedures involves the use of a speculum and includes the use of two swabs, one for initial cleaning of the cervix to remove excess mucus from the cervical os and surrounding mucosa (this swab should be discarded), and a second swab for specimen collection.
 - Once the cleaning swab has been used and discarded, the second swab is used to collect the specimen by insertion of the swab into the endocervical canal followed by gentle rotation of the swab. The swab is then withdrawn while avoiding contact with the vaginal mucosa.
 - Remove the cap from the cobas PCR tube and insert the swab into the tube until the visible dark line on the swab shaft is aligned with the tube rim. Carefully leverage the swab against the tube rim and break swab shaft at the dark line.
 - Recap the tube tightly and mix gently before transporting.
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- Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection
(self-collected or provider collected)
- Insert one swab approximately 2 inches into the vaginal opening and gently turn/rub the swab against the vaginal wall. Withdraw the swab carefully.
 - Remove the cap from the cobas PCR tube and insert the swab into the tube until the visible dark line on the swab shaft is aligned with the tube rim. Carefully leverage the swab against the tube rim and break swab shaft at the dark line.
 - Recap the tube tightly and mix gently before transporting.
 - **Discard unused second swab.**
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- Throat Swab Specimen Collection
- Insert one swab into the back of the throat and swab both tonsillar areas, posterior pharynx, and any areas of inflammation, ulceration or exudation. Withdraw the swab carefully.
 - Remove the cap from the cobas PCR tube and insert the swab into the tube until the visible dark line on the swab shaft is aligned with the tube rim. Carefully leverage the swab against the tube rim and break swab shaft at the dark line.
 - Recap the tube tightly and mix gently before transporting.
 - **Discard unused second swab.**
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- Rectal Swab Specimen Collection
- Insert one swab into the rectum beyond the anal sphincter and rotate. Withdraw the swab carefully.
 - Remove the cap from the cobas PCR tube and insert the swab into the tube until the visible dark line on the swab shaft is aligned with the tube rim. Carefully leverage the swab against the tube rim and break swab shaft at the dark line.
 - Recap the tube tightly and mix gently before transporting.
 - **Discard unused second swab.**
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HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) COLLECTION

Hologic ThinPrep Liquid-based PAP Vial

- USED FOR:** Human Papillomavirus detection from female cervical specimens.
- DESCRIPTION:** Hologic ThinPrep Liquid-based PAP vial: One Papette (Blue Broom) or Plastic Spatula and Cytobrush and 1 PreservCyt Solution Vial.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:**
- Insert the brush into the endocervical canal until only the bottom most fibers are exposed.
 - Slowly rotate the brush $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ turn in one direction.
 - Do NOT over-rotate the brush.
 - Then, rotate the brush in the PreservCyt solution 10 times while pushing against the wall of the ThinPrep vial.
 - Swirl the brush vigorously to release additional material.
 - Discard the brush.
 - Obtain an adequate sample from the ectocervix using a plastic spatula.
 - Swirl the spatula vigorously in the PreservCyt vial 10 times and discard the spatula.
 - Tighten the cap on the ThinPrep vial until the cap passes the torque line.
- TRANSPORT:** Transport within 2 weeks.



BACTERIAL (AEROBIC ONLY), FUNGAL COLLECTION SWAB WITH LIQUID TRANSPORT

BBL CultureSwab Transport System (red cap, dual swab with liquid Stuart's transport)

- USED FOR:** Bacterial NAAT, including *Streptococcus* Group A, *Streptococcus* Group B, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA); Bacterial culture (for aerobic organisms only), or Fungal culture.
- NOTE:** A dedicated swab collection is required for each Nucleic Acid Amplified Test (NAAT).
- DESCRIPTION:** BBL CultureSwab Package: One red-capped dual swab and one transport tube containing liquid Stuart's transport medium (transport medium soaked in sponge at base of tube) all contained in a plastic sleeve.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:**
- Peel open outer package.
 - Remove dual swabs and collect specimen using both swabs.
 - Remove plug from transport tube.
 - Insert swabs into tube and close cap.
- TRANSPORT:**
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|--------------------|--|
| NAAT Testing: | Refrigerated, transport within 4 days. |
| Bacterial Culture: | Room temperature, transport within 48 hours. |
| Fungal Culture: | Room temperature, transport within 48 hours. |



BACTERIAL (AEROBIC/ANAEROBIC), FUNGAL COLLECTION SWAB WITH ESWAB TRANSPORT

ESwab (Flocked swab with Liquid Amies transport)

- USED FOR:** Bacterial culture (for aerobic **and** anaerobic organisms), or Fungal culture.
- NOTE:** ESwab swabs are **not** acceptable for Nucleic Acid Amplified Testing (NAAT).
- DESCRIPTION:** ESwab Package: One flocked swab and one transport tube containing Liquid Amies transport medium in a plastic sleeve.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:**
- Peel open outer package.
 - Remove swab and collect specimen.
 - Remove cap from transport tube.
 - Insert swab into tube and close cap.
- TRANSPORT:**
- Bacterial Culture: Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.
- Fungal Culture: Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.



BACTERIAL (AEROBIC/ANAEROBIC), FUNGAL COLLECTION SWAB WITH GEL TRANSPORT

BBL CultureSwab Plus (Blue Cap with Amies gel transport)

- USED FOR:** Bacterial culture (for aerobic **and** anaerobic organisms), or Fungal culture.
- NOTE:** Gel swabs are **not** acceptable for Nucleic Acid Amplified Testing (NAAT).
- DESCRIPTION:** BBL CultureSwab Plus Package: One blue-capped swab and one transport tube containing Amies gel transport medium in a plastic sleeve.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:**
- Peel open outer package.
 - Remove swab and collect specimen.
 - Remove plug from transport tube.
 - Insert swab into tube and close cap.
- TRANSPORT:**
- Bacterial Culture: Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.
- Fungal Culture: Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.



BACTERIAL, VIRAL (NAAT ONLY), FUNGAL MINI-TIP COLLECTION SWAB WITH LIQUID TRANSPORT

BBL CultureSwab with flexible mini-tip swab (dark green cap with liquid Stuart's transport)

USED FOR: Bacterial NAAT, including *Bordetella pertussis*, Bacterial culture (for aerobic organisms only), or Fungal culture.

NOTE: A dedicated swab collection is required for Nucleic Acid Amplified Test (NAAT).

DESCRIPTION: BBL CultureSwab Package: One dark green-capped mini-tip swab and one transport tube containing liquid Stuart's transport medium (transport medium soaked in sponge at base of tube) all contained in a plastic sleeve.

STORAGE: Room temperature.

- COLLECTION:**
- Peel open outer package.
 - Remove swab and collect specimen.
 - Remove plug from transport tube.
 - Insert swab into tube and close cap.

TRANSPORT:

NAAT Testing: Refrigerated, transport within 4 days.

Bacterial Culture: Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.

Fungal Culture: Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.



VIRAL, CHLAMYDIA, MYCOPLASMA, UREAPLASMA COLLECTION

M6 Transport Medium (pink liquid medium)

USED FOR: Nucleic Acid Amplified Testing (NAAT) for viruses, respiratory Mycoplasma, or respiratory Chlamydia species. Also used for Genital Mycoplasma/Ureaplasma culture, or Genital Chlamydia culture. Or traditional Virus culture.

NOTE: Do not use for cerebrospinal fluid, (CSF), other body fluids, blood, or urine specimens.

DESCRIPTION: M6 Transport Medium Package: One mini-tip flexible swab, one large swab, and one tube of M6 Transport medium all contained in a clear plastic bag.

STORAGE: Room temperature.

- COLLECTION:**
- Tissue:
 - Place tissue specimen into liquid medium.
 - Cap tube tightly to prevent leakage.
 - Swab collection:
 - Obtain specimen using small or large swab provided in the kit.
 - Break off inoculated swab into liquid medium.
 - Cap tube tightly to prevent leakage.

TRANSPORT:

NAAT Testing: Refrigerated, transport within 4 days.

Culture: Refrigerated, transport within 48 hours.



STOOL COLLECTION

PARA-PAK C&S Vial (orange cap / pink liquid)
PARA-PAK Ultra Ecofix (green cap / green liquid)
PARA-PAK Clean Vial (white cap / no liquid)

USED FOR:	<p>C&S Vial: Bacterial enteric pathogen culture (stool culture). This transport medium is designed to keep bacterial enteric pathogens viable during transport. Routine testing includes culture for <i>Salmonella</i>, <i>Shigella</i>, <i>Yersinia</i>, and <i>Campylobacter</i> species, and Shiga-toxin producing <i>Escherichia coli</i>. Testing for <i>Vibrio</i> species may be performed on the same specimen but must be specifically requested.</p> <p>Ecofix Vial: Cryptosporidium / Giardia screen or full Ova & Parasite exam. (For Microsporidium, Cyclospora, or Isopora, use Clean Vial).</p> <p>Clean Vial: <i>Clostridium difficile</i> Nucleic Acid Amplified Test (NAAT), <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> antigen, Rotavirus antigen, Gram stain for white blood cells, Microsporidium, Cyclospora, or Isospora. (May also use a clean screw-capped container without additives.)</p>
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DESCRIPTION:	<p>PARA-PAK C&S Vial: Orange-capped vial containing pink liquid bacterial transport medium.</p> <p>PARA-PAK Ultra Ecofix Vial: Green-capped vial containing green liquid preservative for ova and parasites.</p> <p>PARA-PAK Clean Vial: White-capped vial without additives or preservative (no liquid).</p>
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STORAGE: Room temperature.

- COLLECTION:**
- Collect stool into a clean container.
 - Avoid contamination from toilet water or urine.
 - Select the appropriate vial(s) for the testing requested.
 - Unscrew cap and using the attached scoop, select bloody or mucoid portions of stool specimen and place in vial.
 - Add enough stool to reach the fill line marked on the vial.
 - Cap tightly.
 - Shake vials containing liquid transport (C&S and Ecofix) well to mix.

TRANSPORT:	<p>C&S Vial: Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.</p> <p>Ecofix Vial: Room temperature, transport within 7 days.</p> <p>Clean Vial: Refrigerated, transport within 48 hours.</p>
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VAGINAL PATHOGENS—WET MOUNT FOR TRICHOMONAS, YEAST, & CLUE CELLS COLLECTION

BBL CultureSwab Transport System (red cap. Dual swab with liquid Stuart's transport) or Swab in 0.5 mL Sterile Saline

USED FOR: Trichomonas vaginalis / Yeast / Clue Cells (for Bacterial Vaginosis)

DESCRIPTION: BBL CultureSwab Package:

- One red-capped dual swab and one transport tube containing liquid Stuart's transport medium (transport medium soaked in sponge at base of tube) all contained in a plastic sleeve.

Swab in 0.6 mL Sterile Saline:

- Sterile screw-capped conical tube. Sterile swab. Sterile saline.

STORAGE: Room temperature.

COLLECTION:

- Peel open outer package.
- Remove swabs and collect vaginal specimen using both swabs.
- Remove plug from transport tube.
- Insert swabs into tube and close cap.
- Alternatively, collect vaginal specimen using a sterile swab. Place swab in a sterile screw-capped tube containing a small amount (0.5 - 1.0 mL) of sterile saline.

TRANSPORT: Room temperature, transport within 24 hours.



FECAL OCCULT BLOOD (IMMUNOCHEMICAL) COLLECTION

Polymedco OC-Auto 80 Collection Device

USED FOR: Fecal occult blood testing.

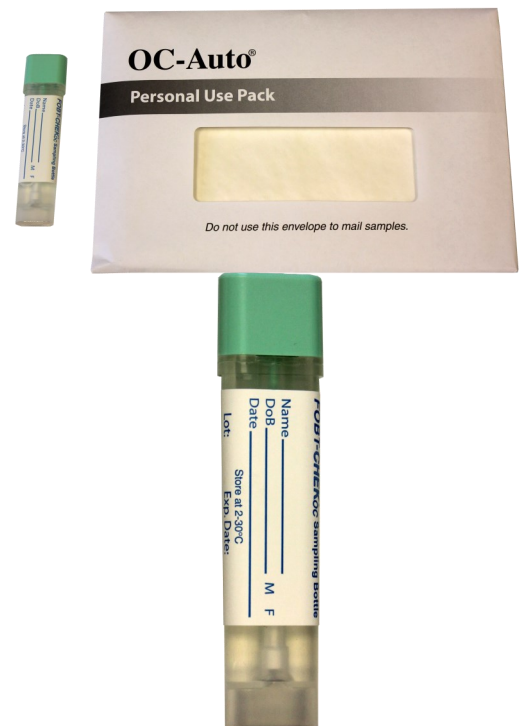
DESCRIPTION: FOBT-CHECKoc Patient Pack with Sampling Bottle: Patient pack contains one FOBT-CHECKoc Sampling Bottle, Patient Instruction Sheet, Collection Paper, and Return Envelope for home collection. Single FOBT-CHECKoc Sampling Bottle also available for in-office or inpatient collection.

STORAGE: Room temperature.

COLLECTION:

- Collect stool specimen using collection paper or other method to avoid contamination with toilet water or urine.
- Fill in all required information on the FOBT-CHECKoc Sampling Bottle label.
- Open green cap of Sampling Bottle by twisting and lifting.
- Scrape the surface of the stool specimen with the sample probe.
- Cover the grooved portion of the sample probe completely with stool. Close the Sampling Bottle by inserting the sample probe.
- Snap the green cap on tightly.
- Do not reopen.

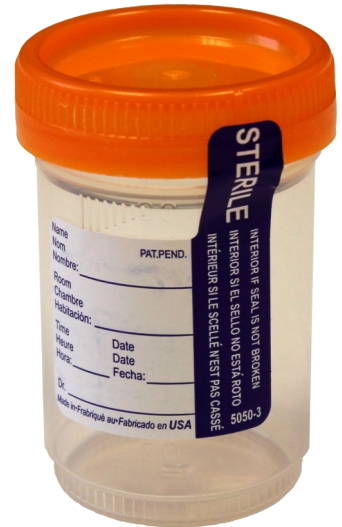
TRANSPORT: Room temperature, transport within 15 days.



STERILE CONTAINER WITHOUT ADDITIVE

Sterile Screw-capped Container

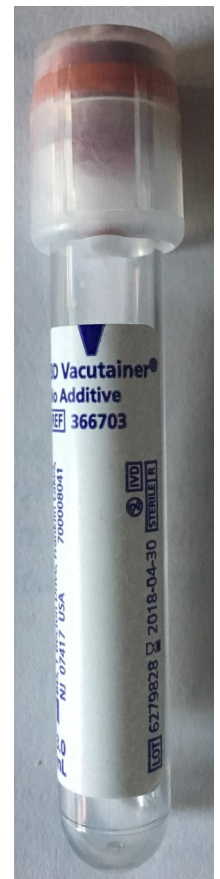
- USED FOR:** Skin / hair / nails for fungal culture, sputum or other respiratory fluid for NAAT testing or culture, sterile body fluid for fungal or AFB culture only, urine for NAAT testing, antigen or culture, stool for NAAT testing or antigen testing (for culture or Ova and parasite testing, use appropriate vial with transport / preservative), arthropod or worm exam (add formalin if available).
- DESCRIPTION:** Sterile Screw-capped Container.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:**
- Place skin, hair, nails, sputum, respiratory fluid, sterile body fluid, urine, stool, arthropod, or worm into container and cap tightly. If arthropod or worm submitted, add formalin if available.
- TRANSPORT:** Skin, hair, nails, arthropod, or worm:
- Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.
- Sputum, respiratory fluid, sterile body fluid, urine or stool:
- Refrigerated, transport within 24 hours.



STERILE VACUTAINER TUBE WITHOUT ADDITIVE

Sterile Vacutainer Tube (without additive)

- USED FOR:** Sterile body fluid for Aerobic / Anaerobic Culture.
- DESCRIPTION:** Sterile Vacutainer Tube.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:**
- Collect body fluid with needle and syringe.
 - Sterilize rubber stopper of Vacutainer tube.
 - Pierce top with needle and transfer fluid to tube.
- TRANSPORT:** Room temperature, transport within 24 hours.



BLOOD, STERILE BODY FLUID CULTURE COLLECTION FOR BACTERIA AND YEAST.

VersaTREK Redox 1 (silver cap / purple label) VersaTREK Redox 2 (red cap / red label)

- USED FOR:** Blood culture or sterile body fluid culture for aerobic **and** anaerobic bacteria and yeast.
- DESCRIPTION:** VersaTREK Redox 1 (silver cap / purple label) and VersaTREK Redox 2 (red cap / red label).
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:** Adult Patient: For each culture request, inoculate 8 - 10 mL blood or sterile body fluid into one Redox 1 Aerobic vial and 8 - 10 mL into one Redox 2 Anaerobic vial.
- Pediatric Patient: For each culture request, inoculate 3 - 5 mL blood or sterile body fluid into one Redox 1 Aerobic vial and 3 - 5 mL into one Redox 2 Anaerobic vial.
- TRANSPORT:** Room temperature, transport as soon as possible.



BLOOD CULTURE COLLECTION FOR ACID FAST BACILLI (AFB) AND FILAMENTOUS FUNGI

Yellow Top Isolator Vacutainer Tube

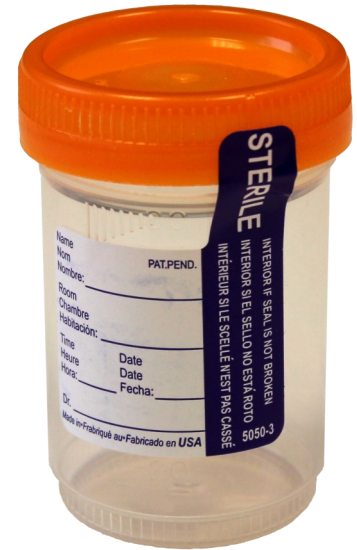
- USED FOR:** Blood culture for AFB or filamentous fungi (molds).
- DESCRIPTION:** Yellow Top Isolator Vacutainer Tube.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:** Adult Patient:
- For each culture request, inoculate 8 - 10 mL blood into one 10 mL Isolator tube.
- Pediatric Patient:
- For each culture request, inoculate 1-1.5 mL blood into one pediatric (1.5 mL) Isolator tube.
- TRANSPORT:** Room temperature, transport as soon as possible.



URINE COLLECTION

Gray Top BD Vacutainer Tube Sterile Screw-Capped Container

- USED FOR:** Bacterial, fungal, or acid-fast bacilli (AFB) culture, *Legionella* urine or *Streptococcus pneumoniae* urine antigen.
- NOTE:** Urinalysis **cannot** be performed from gray top tube. Please submit a separate specimen.
- DESCRIPTION:** Sterile screw-capped container.
- Gray Top BD Vacutainer Kit:
- One Urine Transfer Straw and one BD Gray Top Vacutainer tube with Boric Acid preservative.
- STORAGE:** Room temperature.
- COLLECTION:** Have patients follow instructions for the proper collection of a clean-voided, mid-stream urine specimen.
- For bacterial or fungal culture, transfer specimen into BD Vacutainer collection kit as follows:
- After urine collection, place collection container upright on clean, flat surface.
 - Place Vacutainer tube in holder with stopper down.
 - Place straw into urine specimen and press tube into holder to pierce stopper.
 - Hold in position until urine stops flowing into tube.
 - Remove and shake Vacutainer tube.
- TRANSPORT:** Sterile Container:
- Refrigerated, transport within 24 hours.
- Gray Top Tube:
- Room temperature, transport within 48 hours.





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