










# What do I use to collect a Microbiology and Virology Specimen?

Specimen Type	General Test Associated	Collection	Photo		
			<i>Photos for reference. Always check labels</i>		
Blood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blood Culture (routine)</li> </ul>	Blood culture bottle (routine) – BacT/ALERT FA plus Aerobic (green) and FN plus Anaerobic (orange)	Routine	Pediatric	Fungal/AFB
		Blood culture for pediatric patients- BacT/ALERT PF plus (**yellow**)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fungal Blood Culture</li> <li>AFB Blood Culture</li> </ul>	Fungal/AFB – BACTEC Myco/F Lytic Culture Vials			
Urine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urine Culture and Sensitivity</li> </ul>	Vacutainer Urine C&S - Grey Tube. This is <b>ONLY</b> for urine C&S			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urinalysis (UA), do culture if positive</li> </ul>	UA, do culture if - please send <b>both 2 **yellow**</b> tubes and 1 grey tube <i>A sterile container is also acceptable (do not use household containers or pill bottles)</i>			
	<b>Urinalysis and Urine Culture should ALWAYS be Clean Catch Mid Stream (CCMS) or Catheter collection!</b>		<b>UA x2</b>		
Stool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enteric Pathogens by PCR</li> </ul>	Cary Blair (Dark Pink liquid)	Cary Blair	Empty	SAF Fixative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>O &amp; P Screen</li> </ul>	SAF Fixative Container (Clear liquid)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adenovirus</li> <li>Rotavirus</li> <li>Occult Blood</li> <li>Lactoferrin</li> <li>C-diff Toxin (liquid stool only)</li> </ul>	Empty Vial (Plain Container)			
	<b>Please send in stool 3 pack and fill all containers to indicated line</b>				
Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSF Culture</li> <li>AFB Culture</li> <li>Cryptococcus Antigen</li> <li>Fungal - Not hair, skin or nail</li> </ul>	Send Specimen in sterile container.  Lab Testing is performed using the following tube order regardless of label: 1) Hematology, 2) Microbiology, 3) Hematology, 4) Chemistry			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Body Fluid Culture w/gram (routine)</li> <li>Fungal - Not hair, skin or nail</li> <li>AFB Culture</li> <li>Body Fluid Anaerobes</li> </ul>	Send specimen in sterile container with cap: cup or glass jug (not pictured) for large quantities of fluid. For less than 1.0 mL use eSwab™. <b>Note: If you have swab with fluid from abscess drainage or ear drainage, please order as Wound Culture (see Specimen Type: Swab).</b>		<b>OR glass jug (not pictured)</b>	
Sputum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respiratory Culture</li> <li>Fungal Culture Respiratory</li> <li>AFB Culture</li> </ul>	Morning collection is preferred. <b>Rinse mouth</b> and collect 4 or 5 deep coughs in a sterile specimen container. Place cap on the container. Label with orders (include source: sputum). Deliver to lab ASAP			
Tissue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tissue Culture w/Gram</li> <li>Fungal Culture - Hair, Skin or Nails</li> <li>AFB Culture</li> </ul>	Send in a sterile container with cap. <b>No swabs.</b>  <b>Note: Please only order if you have actual or large tissue. If not actual tissue, order a wound culture (Swab specimen type is eSwab™, instructions located on other side. Biopsy should use eSwab™ as well.)</b>			

**ALWAYS INCLUDE 2 PATIENT IDENTIFIERS - NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH ON EVERY SPECIMEN & ORDER**

Microbiology Quick Guide - For complete information, please visit the Online Laboratory Catalog: [spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org](http://spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org)

Or call the Laboratory Call Center at 616.774.7721




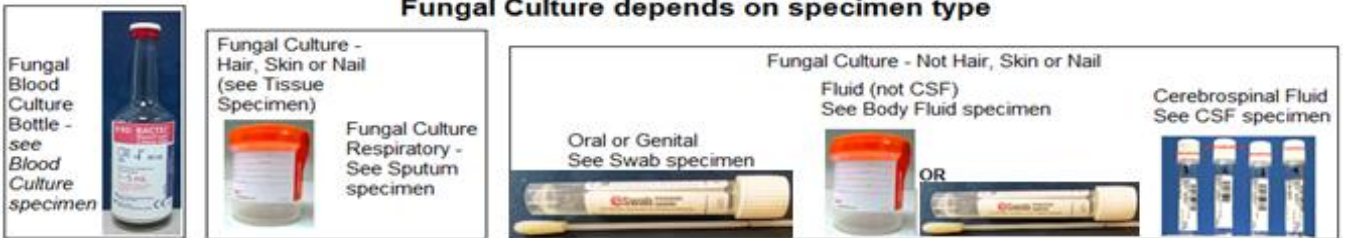
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**SPECTRUM HEALTH**

Specimen Type	General Test Associated	Collection	Photo <i>Photos for reference. Always check labels</i>
<b>Swab</b>  <i>A submission of a fluid, tissue or biopsy is preferred over swabs. See below for viral specimen swab collection. See other side for tissue collection.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anaerobe culture • Wound Culture</li> <li>Bordetella pertussis PCR</li> <li>Ciprofloxacin Screen</li> <li>Fungal Culture - not hair, skin or nail (fluid, genital, oral)</li> <li>Group B Strep, PCR (GBS)</li> <li>Group B Strep, Penicillin Allergy PCR</li> <li>MRSA Screen</li> <li>Staph. aureus Screen</li> <li>Strep A Screen (Vag/Crvx)</li> <li>Trichomonas, OSOM or Wet Prep</li> </ul>	<p><b>eSwab™</b> - Standard Tip Swab <b>OR</b>  <b>eSwab™</b> - Mini Tip Swab (<i>preferable for pediatric and nasopharyngeal collection.</i>)</p> <p><i>(Directions: Remove tube from wrapper. Label with patient information. Remove swab aseptically and collect sample. Place the swab in the tube so that it reaches to the bottom. Break off the swab at edge of tube at the molded mark. Screw cap on the tube tightly and send tube with swab inside to Laboratory)</i></p> <p><b>Please indicate source of specimen.</b>  <b>Swabs are not appropriate for AFB Cultures</b></p>	 <p><b>eSwab™</b>  Standard Tip (Top, <b>white</b> cap)  Mini Tip (Bottom, <b>blue</b> cap)</p>
<b>Swab Throat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strep A Rapid</li> <li>Strep A Screen, Culture if Negative</li> <li>Throat Culture</li> </ul>	<p><b>Use the swab provided in the kit</b></p> <p><b>eSwab™</b> - Standard Tip Swab <b>OR</b>  <b>eSwab™</b> - Mini Tip Swab (<i>preferable for pediatric and nasopharyngeal collection.</i>)</p> <p><b>Please indicate source of specimen</b></p>	
<b>Swab Viral</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CMV Culture • Film Array***</li> <li>Chlamydia Culture</li> <li>Chlamydia pneumoniae PCR</li> <li>Herpes Simplex PCR or Culture</li> <li>Influenza A/B (<b>PCR or Rapid</b>)</li> <li>Metapneumovirus</li> <li>Mycoplasma pneumoniae PCR</li> <li>RSV (<b>PCR or Rapid</b>)</li> <li>Respiratory Viral Culture</li> <li>Viral Culture</li> </ul>	<p><b>UTM with regular flocked swab</b></p> <p><b>Red</b> top tube with <b>pink</b> liquid including a flocked swab, stored at room temperature in a clear bag labeled <b>UTM</b> (Universal Transport Media). Send tube and swab together. Refrigerate or put on <b>ice</b> after collection.</p> <p>***Film Array by PCR: Adenovirus, Bordetella pertussis, Chlamydia pneumonia, Coronavirus, Influenza A/B, Metapneumovirus, Mycoplasma pneumonia, Parainfluenza, RSV, Rhinovirus-Enterovirus.</p>	 <p><b>UTM</b>  Send tube and swab together</p>
<b>Fungal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fungal Blood Culture</li> <li>Fungal Culture - not hair, skin or nail (<i>fluid, genital, oral</i>)</li> <li>Fungal Culture - hair, skin or nail (skin scrapings)</li> <li>Fungal Culture Respiratory (sputum)</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Fungal Culture depends on specimen type</b></p> 	

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