




BLOOD CULTURE
Aerobic/
Anaerobic
(Adult)

Orderable – BLC

Turnaround Time: 5 days – positive findings are available within 1 hour of discovery. Negative cultures at 24 hours

Specimen Type and Collection Information:

This sample type cannot be processed as a STAT request. Results are reported as they become available.

Specimen Type	Collection Information	Collection Device
Arterial Line Central Line Venipuncture	Blood Culture collection procedure – Aerobic/Anaerobic (Adult) Blood Culture collection procedure – Central Venous Access Device 8-10 mL blood per bottle	



Laboratory:
Microbiology



Requisition:
Electronic order



Method of Analysis:
Continuous monitoring
blood culture system



Test Schedule:
Daily

For patients weighing less than 35 kg, please refer to “[Blood Volume Requirements for Paediatric Blood Culture Collections](#)”

Indications:

Blood cultures should be collected on each patient based on the clinical suspicion of a septic episode. Two sets of blood cultures from separate venipuncture sites, drawn within a 24-hour period and prior to antibiotic therapy, are recommended. If endocarditis is suspected, collect a third set.

Catheter associated bacteremia (CAB):

If catheter associated bacteremia (CAB) is being investigated, collect a set of blood cultures through the central line and a concurrent set of peripheral blood cultures.

Indicate "CAB INVESTIGATION" in “Specimen Description” when placing the order in PowerChart and specify site of each collection. An accurate collect date and time **must** be recorded in Specimen Collect or on the specimen labels. All sets of blood cultures need to be submitted to the lab at the same time, multiple bags can be fastened together.

Blood cultures for *Candida*, *Cryptococcus* and yeast like organisms:

No additional procedures are required for the isolation of these organisms using the



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blood culture monitoring system.

Blood cultures for *Histoplasma*, *Blastomyces* and *Malassezia* species:
Refer to the Fungal Culture Laboratory Test Information Guide

Storage and Shipment:

Transport bottle to the lab promptly; all bottles must be received within 24 hours of collection. Bottles received after 24hrs of collection will be processed but growth may be impeded resulting in false negatives or delays in reporting.

If there is a delay in transport, bottles can be left at room temperature. Never refrigerate.