**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Collection Information</th>
<th>Collection Device</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arterial Line</td>
<td>Blood Culture collection procedure – Aerobic/Anaerobic (Adult)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Line</td>
<td>Blood Culture collection procedure – Central Venous Access Device</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venipuncture</td>
<td>8-10 mL blood per bottle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
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.