Manchester Medical Microbiology Partnership

Department: Bacteriology
Date of issue: 21st October 2024
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## **BACTERIOLOGY SAMPLE CONTAINER GUIDE**

All precious samples, such as CSF and respiratory samples including sputum, BALs etc <u>MUST NOT</u> be sent via the pneumatic tube. <u>All other specimens, e.g., swabs, tips, blood cultures, faeces and urines can be sent via the pneumatic tube (POD).</u>

\*\*All urgent samples need to be phoned to the laboratory prior to sending\*\*

Media: Foam sponge soaked in liquid media

Test	Container type	Comments
MRSA Nose & Groin/perineum only	Double eSwab – pink cap, liquid media Manufacturer: COPAN Lid: Pink top Media: Liquid Amies Media appearance: Clear, colourless Swab: 1 x white, 1 x pink  Only specimens received with white swab in the tube are accepted for MRSA screen:   ✓ Correct  This swab will be processed.  This swab will be rejected.	Liquid e-Swabs contain 1ml of liquid. No liquid should be discarded when collecting sample. Samples with insufficient liquid will be rejected.  SEE: APPENDIX 1 for MRSA swab collection procedure
VRE screen/Wounds/throat swab/genital swabs (Skin, superficial, not surgical), Abscess or swab, deep-seated pus swab, post op wound swab, wound exudates (all include MRSA)  MRSA Screen – *for a rapid MRSA screening only result, please	Single eSwab — pink cap, liquid media Manufacturer: COPAN Lid: Pink top Media: Liquid Amies Media appearance: Clear, colourless Swab: 1 x white	Collect the sample, insert the swak into the tube, snap off at the marked break point, discard the remaining shaft and recap the tube. Do not discard any liquid.
Rapid/Routine Carbapenemase- Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) Screen	Double-head (duo) swab – red cap, sponge with liquid media  Manufacturer: COPAN Lid: Red top	Double headed red topped swab Charcol swabs and wire samples are not suitable for this test and will be rejected. Faecal material must be visible on the cotton tip of the swab otherwise the specimen will be rejected.

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	Media appearance: Off-white sponge at base of container Swab: 1 x 1 x double-head white		
Urethral swab			
Non- swab samples: Tissues, pus, Line Tips, Aspirates, Sterile fluids, Respiratory samples (sputum, BALs, Pleural fluid)	Sterilin U.S.	Universal container (30ml) – white top, sterile container Universal container (50ml) – white/silver/yellow top, sterile container Sterile fluids minimum volume: 1mL  Tubes MUST be removed and replaced with a securely sealed	
Sterile fluids for		screw cap  Sliver/blue top aerobic bottle	
culture: CAPD/ peritoneal fluids (Ascites), Joint Fluids (Prosthetic & Natural), Stem Cell		Inoculate up to 10 mL to the bottl	
Pleural Fluids (Not including pleural drains) are required to be sent in a set of blood culture bottles AND a sterile universal		Adults: Sliver/blue top aerobic bottle	
	GID BACKS	Paediatrics: Pink top Peds aerobic bottle	
Bronchial washings and Bronchoalveolar lavage		Tubes <u>MUST</u> be removed and replaced with a securely sealed screw cap	
Urine Clean catch urine (CCU), Mid-stream urine (MSU), Supra pubic	Urine – Boric Acid Monovette tubes, Minimal volume: 10 mL	Urine samples must be collected i a primary container and then drawn into the 10ml Monovette	

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**Manchester Medical Microbiology Partnership** Copy no: Edition no: 8 **Department: Bacteriology** Date of issue: 21st October 2024 Page 3 of 6 **Document no: MMMP-BACT-INS626** Authors: J Kwiatkowska Approved by: P Farrell aspirate (SPA), Bladder using the straw inside the & Catheter urine packaging. **SEE: APPENDIX 2 for Urine Monovette User Guide** NB. Exceptions will be made for paediatric urine samples on babies up to 3 months, where the volume is less than 10ml. A universal container will be accepted for these patients. Other urine samples received in non-boric acid container will be rejected. **Blood cultures** Blood culture set is defined as one **BC Volume:** aerobic (sliver/blue top) and one Adults: Inoculate between Venous blood, arterial anaerobic bottle (purple top) 8- 10 mL to each bottle blood, peripheral blood, Children: Inoculate between sterile fluids, stem cells For neonates and infants a single Peds aerobic botle (pink top) is 1-3mL **Plastic bottles** required. Neonates: Inoculate 1-2 mL Underfilling blood culture bottles may give false negative results. BCs can be sent via POD. Minimal volume of specimen for Faeces culture and C.diff: 2-3 mL or 1/8 of NB: One sample can be the container. sent for all the following tests if required: Minimal volume of specimen for Routine culture, C. diff, all tests: 5 mL or 1/4 of the container H. pylori, Ova Cysts and Parasites (OCP). **Faeces Parasitology** Minimal volume of specimen is 2-3 **Ova Cysts and Parasites** mL or 1/8 of the container. (OCP). Send 3 faecal samples over a period of 10 days, dated and labelled 1,2&3. Please record duration of diarrhoea, relevant foreign travel, presence of abdominal symptoms and evidence of malabsorption & blood eosinophil count. If amoebic dysentery is suspected and clinical advice needed tel 0161 276 6333.

Collection kit to be provided by the laboratory by calling 0161 276

Any sterile container

6734

**Faeces Parasitology** 

(Pinworm)

**Urine for** 

**Schistosomiasis** 

**Enterobius vermicularis** 

SALINE SWAB

Perinasal swab
Bordetella pertussis
(whooping cough)

AFB including TB
Glass bottle

Blood culture bottle, white cap
Minimal volume: 5mL of BAL, 6mL of CSF, 1-5 mL of bone marrow or blood

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### TO AVOID SAMPLE REJECTION - PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:

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- \* SEND THE SAMPLE IN A CORRECT CONTAINER AND WITH THE CORRECT SWAB IN ( MRSA SCREEN) see instruction on the next page
- \* Sample MUST be labelled with 4 identifiers (District number or NHS number, Surname, Forename, DOB)
- \* Request form identifiers MUST match the identifiers on the sample
- \* Each sample must be placed in a separate, sealed plastic bag, samples that require testing in multiple departments MUST be separated and transported in separate bags
- \* One test should be requested per request form and one sample sent
- \* Screw cap MUST be securely sealed to prevent sample's leakage.

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#### **APPENDIX 1:**

# Double eSwab: MRSA screening for nose and groin/perineum only



1. Open the peel pouch and hold with swabs and tube accessible.

Alternatively, the tube can be placed on a flat surface.



2. Take out the pink swab holding **only** the top half of the shaft.

 Collect the first sample (groin/perineum).



 Unscrew tube cap, insert swab into the liquid and 'swirl' for 5 seconds.

Discard the pink swab as tiger waste. Re-cap tube if required.



Take out the white swab holding only the top half of the shaft.

7. Collect the second sample (nose).



 Unscrew tube cap, insert the swab into the tube and snap off at marked break point.

9. Discard the remaining plastic shaft.



Re-cap the tube with the white swab end and liquid inside.

**Note:** Swab can be dampened with one drop of sterile saline before use if required. Do not use the liquid from the e-swab as the whole amount is needed for the test.

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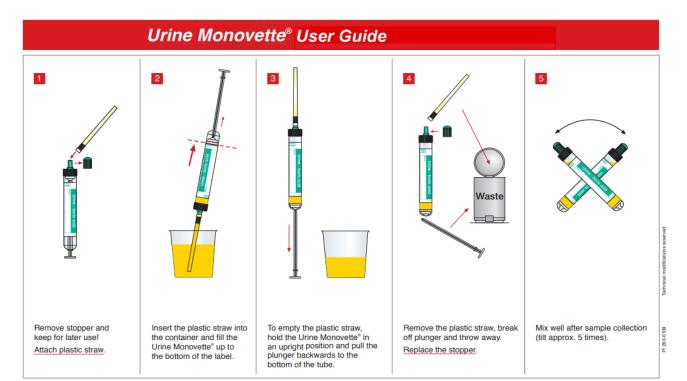
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#### **APPENDIX 2:**



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