

Microbiology Test Ordering Guide

Specific Aerobic Culture Types:

Specimen is:	Ear	Eye	Sinus or Nasopharyngeal	Genital		Sterile Body Fluid	Lower Respiratory
	Exudate from otitis media or otitis externa	Conjunctival, lid margin, aspirate (vitreous, aqueous), corneal scrapings, donor corneas	Nasopharyngeal, sinuses	Vaginal, cervical, urethral		Except blood	Sputum, BAL, miniBAL, bronch brush, tracheal aspirate
Order this test:	Culture Ear	Culture Eye	Culture Nasal/ Nasopharyngeal	Culture Genital without <i>N. gonorrhoeae</i>	Culture Genital with <i>N. gonorrhoeae</i>	Culture Fluid	Culture Lower Respiratory
	EACUL LAB11370	EYCUL LAB943	NPCUL LAB11369	GNCUL LAB10385	GCCUL LAB10376	FLCUL LAB269	LRCUL LAB900
Collection Devices:	Aerobic Swab or Sterile Container	Aerobic Swab or Sterile Container	Aerobic Swab or Sterile Container	Aerobic Swab		Sterile container	Sterile container


General Aerobic Culture Type:

Culture Routine with Gram Stain (GECUL) – LAB897

For detecting, identifying, and determining in vitro susceptibility of aerobic bacteria.



Use when a site-specific or organism-specific culture is not available. Typically used for wounds, abscesses, skin, and other superficial sites

Aerobic Swabs (not suitable for anaerobic collection):

	<p>Thermo Scientific Remel BactiSwab (single/dual swab)</p> <p>Red/clear cap. Plastic shaft and synthetic tip. Sponge with liquid stuart transport medium. Used for GAS antigen and reflex throat culture.</p>
	<p>BBL Culture Swab (single/dual swab) or equivalent aerobic sponge swab</p> <p>Clear cap (color can vary). Single swab with plastic shaft and synthetic tip. Sponge with liquid stuart or liquid amies transport medium.</p> <p>Note: BBL Culture Swabs that do not have a sponge will be rejected.</p>


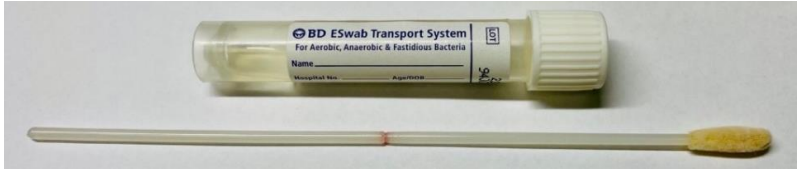

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Anaerobic Culture Type:

Culture Anaerobic and Aerobic with Gram Stain (ANCUL) – LAB10015 For detecting, identifying, and determining in vitro susceptibility of aerobic and anaerobic bacteria.	
	Acceptable sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspirates (collected with needle and syringe), surgical collection of tissue, bone, and biopsy samples. Anaerobic swabs are acceptable only if collected from <u>anatomic regions that support anaerobic growth and are not normally colonized with flora</u> (deep wounds/abscesses or cysts). Specific body fluids (if anaerobic organisms are suspected) such as: synovial, pericardial, pleural, CSF, or peritoneal Specific genital specimens: specimens collected via laparoscopy, culdocentesis, IUD, or surgically collected specimens
	Unacceptable sources Superficial sites, wounds, abscesses, skin, urine, routine genital specimens, respiratory specimens (except: surgically collected tissue or lung biopsy), gastrointestinal specimens, ear, eye, throat, tonsil, nose, sinuses
Acceptable collection devices: Tissue or bone in sterile container, E-swab, or anaerobic gel swab (e.g. BBL Culture Swab Plus) Unacceptable collection devices: Aerobic sponge swab (e.g. BBL Culture Swab)	

Swabs for Anaerobic and Aerobic Collection:

Note: This list pertains to collection via swab only. Collection via other means (e.g. fine needle aspirate, etc) is also acceptable

	BBL Culture Swab Plus (single/dual swab) <i>Blue cap. Double or single swab with a plastic shaft and synthetic tip. Amies Gel transport medium.</i>
	BD ESwab Transport System or equivalent ESwab kit <i>White cap (color can vary). Flocked swab with transport vial containing 1mL Liquid Amies Transport Medium</i>
	Puritan Opti-Swab Liquid Amies Collection and Transport System <i>Narrow flocked swab with a screw-cap vial containing 1ml or 2 ml modified liquid Amies</i>

Important Reminder	
	In all cases, it is important to correctly select the specimen type and source from the categorical lists when entering the order. The specimen type and source helps dictate the media that is setup for the test and guides work up of the culture. Entering the specimen source in the order comments is not a replacement for the correct selection of the specimen type and source.