



BACTERIAL CULTURE, ANAEROBIC (CLINICAL SAMPLE)

Synonym(s):

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Lab Section Category	Click here to find out more about the v	Bacteriology/Mycology/Parasitology - Bacteria Click here to find out more about the write-up (/Clinical-Departments-Centers/Pathology/Pathology-Handbook/Lab-Discipline-Special-Instructions/pages/bacteriology-mycology-parasitology.aspx).		
Specimen Required	For further details, see guidelines on collecting samples. It is important to indicate the source and type of sample sent. Suitable samples include: -anaerobic blood culture bottles -pus sent in a syringe -tissue or swab sent in anaerobic transport media -protected BALs -protected brush specimens -sterile fluids All samples must be sent to the laboratory within one hour. If both aerobic and anaerobic culture is desired, separate swabs must be sent. Dry swabs must not be sent for anaerobic culture – they have to be put in transport media.			
Method	Culture			
Test Result	Organisms reported; no growth of anaerobes; mixed growth of aerobes and anaerobes			
Turnaround Time	Negative: 4 – 8 days Positive: 4 – 8 days			
		Negative	Positive	
	Blood culture	4 - 5 days	4 – 7 days	
	Actinomyces	14 days	16 days	
Day(s) Test Set up	Daily	Daily		
Remarks		Unacceptable samples include dry swabs and samples from sites normally colonised by anaerobic bacteria, e.g. sputum, ETT aspirate, bronchial washings, stool (except for <i>C. difficile</i> culture), voided urine, vaginal swab, superficial material collected from skin surface.		

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