








SUMMARY OF TRANSPORT MEDIA FOR BACTERIOLOGY





Please refer to Laboratory Service Guide for further details.


<u>Specimen type</u>	<u>Test required</u>	<u>Container</u>
Blood & Bone Marrow	Aerobic culture	 Bact/Alert bottles (▲) <u>Aerobic</u> - Adult (green - FA) - Paeds (yellow - PF) <u>Anaerobic</u> - Orange (FN)
	Aerobic & Anaerobic culture	
	Fungus culture (Candidasis only)	
	Fungus culture (for dimorphic fungi and mould)	 Heparin tube (▲)
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture	 Heparin tube (▲) (EDTA tube not suitable)
	TB Molecular detection	 EDTA tube (▲)


Blood (serum)	ASOT	 Plain (red top) or Gold top tube (▲)
	Mycoplasma Total Antibody	
	Aspergillus galactomannan Antigen	
	Cryptococcal Antigen	



Body Fluid, Body Aspirate	Aerobic & Anaerobic culture	 Sterile container (▲)
	Fungus culture	
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear	


CSF	Aerobic culture	 <p>Sterile container (▲)</p>
	Fungus culture	
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear	
	Cryptococcal Antigen (CSF)	
	Aspergillus galactomannan Antigen (CSF)	
	Meningitis and Encephalitis Panel PCR	

Eye / Cornea Scraping	Aerobic culture	 <p>Chocolate plate; CDC ANA Blood plate (⊠)</p>
	Aerobic & Anaerobic culture	
	Fungus culture	 <p>Sabouraud's plate with chloramphenicol (⊠)</p>
	Acanthamoeba culture	 <p>Page Saline (⊠)</p>
	Microsporidia microscopy (eye / cornea)	 <p>Slide (⊠)</p>


Genital tract swab	Aerobic culture	 <p>eSwab (Single swab) (▲)</p>
	Trichomonas / Candida / Bacterial vaginosis	
	Streptococcus Group B screen	


Wound and miscellaneous site swab	Aerobic culture	 <p>eSwab (Single swab) (▲)</p>
	Aerobic & Anaerobic culture	
	Fungus culture	
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear	


Respiratory specimens (sputum, ETT aspirate, BAL), nasal and throat swabs For viral PCR, please refer to page 6: Summary of Transport Media for Virology.	Aerobic culture	 Sterile container (▲)
	Fungus culture	
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear	
	TB Molecular detection	
	Aspergillus galactomannan Antigen (BAL)	
		 eSwab (Single swab) (▲) (for Nasal & Throat swab)


Skin scraping, nail clipping, hair	Fungus smear	 Sterile container (▲)
	Fungus culture	
	Scabies microscopy (skin scraping)	



Nasal, Axilla, Groin swabs	MRSA screen	 MRSA eSwab (Double swabs) (▲)
	Candida auris screen	


Rectal swab	CRE screen	 eSwab (Single swab) (▲)
	VRE screen	



Stool	Aerobic culture	 <p>Sterile container with spatula (▲)</p>
	Occult blood	
	Rotavirus	
	Ova, cyst and parasites examination	
	<i>C. difficile</i> toxin	
	Faecal Fat	
	Cryptosporidium, Cyclospora, Cystoisospora Microscopy	
	Microsporidia Microscopy (stool)	
	CRE screen (stool)	
	VRE screen (stool)	
	Faecal Calprotectin	
	Norovirus PCR	


Tissue / Biopsy / Bone	Aerobic & Anaerobic culture	 <p>Sterile container (▲)</p> <p>Gastric biopsy for <i>H. pylori</i> culture: send biopsy in 2 – 3 drops sterile saline.</p>
	Fungus culture	
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear	
	TB Molecular detection	
	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i> culture (gastric biopsy)	

Urethral, Cervical, Neonatal eye	Gonococcus culture	 <p>eSwab (Single swab) (▲)</p>
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Urine	Aerobic culture	 <p>Boric acid container (Adult) (▲)</p>
		 <p>Boric acid container (Paeds) (▣)</p>

Urine	Fungus culture	 Sterile container (▲)
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture (Volume ≥ 40mL)	
	TB Molecular detection	
	Urine Red Cell Morphology	

Other Microbiology specimens (please specify collection site)	Aerobic culture	 Sterile container (▲)	
	Aerobic & anaerobic culture		
	Fungus culture		
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear		
	TB Molecular detection		
	Gram smear		 eSwab (Single swab) (▲)
	Fungus smear		
	AFB smear		




Various cultures and smears	Amies Transystem gel swabs are still applicable for non eSwab users from non-NUH institutions	 Amies Transystem (*)
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(▲): For in-house NUH patients, please obtain from MMD ext 25196.

(⌘): Please obtain container from NUH Microbiology Laboratory ext 24343.

Note: For non-NUH clients, please liaise with National University Hospital Referral Laboratory (65) 6778 5171.

SUMMARY OF TRANSPORT MEDIA FOR VIROLOGY

Specimen type	Test required	Container
Respiratory: Nasopharyngeal swab / Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL)	Respiratory Pathogens Panel PCR	 Universal transport medium (UTM) and Flocked swab (▣)  Sterile container (▲)
Respiratory: Nasopharyngeal swab	Influenza A, B and RSV PCR	 Universal transport medium (UTM) and Flocked swab (▣)

(▲): For in-house NUH patients, please obtain from MMD ext 25196.

(▣): Please obtain container from NUH Microbiology Laboratory ext 24343.

Note: For non-NUH clients, please liaise with National University Hospital Referral Laboratory (65) 6778 5171.