








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	 Sterile container (▲)
	Fungus culture	
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear	
	Cryptococcal Antigen (CSF)	
	Aspergillus galactomannan Antigen (CSF)	


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


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


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


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

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, Isospora 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	 eSwab (Single swab) (▲)
	Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB) culture & smear	
	TB Molecular detection	
	Gram smear	
	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 (*)

(▲): 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: Nasal aspirate / Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) / Nasal swab / Nasopharyngeal swab, Throat swab	Respiratory IF	 <p>Sterile container (▲) (For large volume of fluids and aspirates)</p>  <p>Universal transport medium (UTM) and Flocked swab (▣)</p>
Respiratory: Nasopharyngeal swab	Influenza A, B and RSV PCR	 <p>Universal transport medium (UTM) and Flocked swab (▣)</p>
Swab - Genital swab, Skin swab, Oral swab, Vesicle swab, Conjunctival swab	Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) IF	 <p>Universal Transport Medium (UTM) and Flocked swab(▣)</p>
Swab - Skin swab, Blister swab, Vesicle swabs, Conjunctival swab	Varicella-Zoster Virus (VZV) IF	

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

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

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