



HEALTH HOLDING

HAFER ALBATIN HEALTH
CLUSTER
MATERNITY AND
CHILDREN HOSPITAL

Department:	Laboratory and Blood Bank (Microbiology)		
Document:	Internal Policy and Procedure		
Title:	Sterile Body Fluids Culture		
Applies To:	All Laboratory Staff		
Preparation Date:	January 06, 2025	Index No:	LB-IPP-119
Approval Date:	January 20, 2025	Version :	2
Effective Date:	February 20, 2025	Replacement No.:	LB-IPP-119(1)
Review Date:	February 20, 2028	No. of Pages:	02

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To establish system and set responsibilities for processing body fluids culture.

2. DEFINITONS:

- 2.1 N/A

3. POLICY:

- 3.1 These specimens should be collected by aseptic percutaneous aspiration.
3.2 Samples will be collected in sterile containers.
3.3 If a delay in transport or processing is anticipated, keep the specimen at room temperature.

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 All body fluids culture (5-10 ml) should be loaded on blood culture bottles and processed in Bactec Alert 3D/ BD Bactec 9120 machine for 2 days, positive samples will be processed as in culture procedures.
4.2 If a clotted specimen is received, emulsify the coagulated material using a sterile swab or loop.
4.3 If sterile tubes are available and >1 ml of fluid is received, centrifuge the specimen (3500 rpm x 20 minutes), Use the sediment to prepare the smears and inoculate the culture media.
4.4 If <1 ml of specimen is received, prepare smears and inoculate the culture media directly.
4.5 Direct Examination & Gram stain is done.
4.6 Culture:
4.6.1 Inoculate media and incubate as follows:

Media	Incubation
Blood Agar (BA)	CO ₂ , 35+2 °C x 48 hours
MacConkey Agar (MAC)	CO ₂ , 35+2 °C x 48 hours
Chocolate Agar (CHOC)	CO ₂ , 35+2 °C x 48 hours
Blood Agar (BA) (if anaerobic culture is requested)	Anaerobic, 35+2 °C x 48 hours
If fungal culture is requested, add Sabouraud Agar	O ₂ , 30°C x 3 weeks.

4.6.2 Interpretation of Cultures:

- 4.6.2.1 Examine the BA, CHOC and MAC plates after 24- and 48-hours incubation and the anaerobic BA plate after 48 hours' incubation.

- 4.6.2.2 All isolates are to be identified.

4.7 Susceptibility Testing: Refer to Susceptibility Testing Manual.

4.8 Reporting Results:

- 4.8.1 Gram stain: Report the presence of organisms and WBCs (Do not quantitate).
4.8.2 Culture:

4.8 Reporting Results:

4.8.1 Gram stain: Report the presence of organisms and WBCs (Do not quantitate).

4.8.2 Culture:

4.8.2.1 Negative Report: "No growth after 48 hours incubation".

4.8.2.2 Positive Report: Report all isolates with appropriate sensitivities.

5. MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT:

5.1 Blood culture bottles/ Instruments

5.2 Microbiology culture media

5.3 Microscan combo panels/ Vitek 2 system ID/ AST cards

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

6.1 Assigned Technician for Microbiology

6.2 Clinical Pathology Specialist/ Consultant

7. APPENDICES:

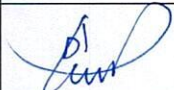



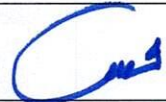
N/A

8. REFERENCES:

8.1 Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook, American Society of Microbiology, Washington DC, 2005.

8.2 P.R. Murray, E.J. Baron, M.A. Pfaller, R.H. Tenover, R.M. Teno. 2003. Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 8th ed. ASM Press, Washington, D.C.

9. APPROVALS:

	Name	Title	Signature	Date
Prepared by:	Dr. Kawther M. Abdou	Consultant & Lab. Medical Director		January 06, 2025
Reviewed by:	Ms. Noora Melfi Alanizi	Laboratory & Blood Bank Director		January 08, 2025
Reviewed by:	Mr. Abdulelah Ayed Al Mutairi	QM&PS Director		January 12, 2025
Reviewed by:	Dr. Tamer Mohamed Naguib	Medical Director		January 13, 2025
Approved by:	Mr. Fahad Hazam Alshammari	Hospital Director		January 20, 2025