



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
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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)	CO2, 35+2 °C x 48 hours
MacConkey Agar (MAC)	CO2, 35+2 °C x 48 hours
Chocolate Agar (CHOC)	CO2, 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	O2, 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

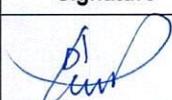
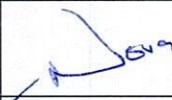
7. APPENDICES:

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. Yolken. 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