HEALTH HOLDING

HAFER ALBATIN HEALTH CLUSTER
MATERNITY AND CHILDREN HOSPITAL

Department:	Laboratory and Blood Bank (Microbiology)		
Document:	Internal Policy and Procedures		
Title:	Nasal Sinuses Culture		
Applies To:	All Laboratory Staff		
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1. PURPOSE:

1.1 To establish system and set responsibilities for processing nasal sinuses swab culture.

2. DEFINITONS:

2.1 N/A

3. POLICY:

3.1 Sinus aspirates and antral Lavages should be collected into a clean, sterile container.
3.2 If a delay in transport or processing is anticipated, the specimen should be kept at 4 °C.

4. PROCEDURE:

4.1 **Direct examination:**
4.1.1 Gram stain, examine for and quantitate the presence of pus cells and organisms.
4.2 **Inoculating Culture media:**

Media	Incubation
Blood Agar (BA)	O2, 35+2 °C x 48 hours
MacConkey Agar (MAC)	O2, 35+2 °C x 48 hours
Chocolate Agar(CHOC)	CO2, 35+2 °C x 48 hours
Sabouraud Agar (SD)	O2, 30°C x 4 weeks
If anaerobic culture requested, add: Blood Agar (BA)	AnO2, 35+2 °C x 48 hours.

4.2.1 Examine the BA, CHOC and MAC plates after 24- and 48-hours incubation and the anaerobic blood agar after 48 hours incubation.
4.2.2 Susceptibility testing: Refer to Susceptibility Testing Manual.
4.3 **Reporting Results:**
4.3.1 Gram stain: Report with quantitation the presence of pus cells and organisms.
4.3.2 Culture:
4.3.2.1 Negative report: "Commensal flora" or "No growth after 48 hours incubation".
4.3.2.2 Positive report: Quantitate and report significant isolates with appropriate sensitivities. Report "Commensal flora" if also present.

5. MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT:

5.1 Microbiology Culture media
5.2 Gram Stain Reagents
5.3 Microscan Combo panels/ Vitek2 ID & AST cards

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

6.1 The assigned technician/ technologist for microbiology unit.
6.2 The C. Pathology specialist/ consultant

7. APPENDICES:

7.1 N/A

8. REFERENCES:

8.1 Procedure Manual, Toronto Medical laboratories / Mount Sinai Hospital department of microbiology.
8.2 Bailey & Scott's Diagnostic Microbiology. Feingold& Baron;12th. Ed.2007, C.V. Mosby Co. p. 301.
8.3 Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook, American Society of Microbiology, Washington DC, 2005.

9. APPROVALS:

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