

Wound Swab

Synonyms	
Clinical Indication	<p>If fluid pus is available, for example, from an abscess, a sample of this should be submitted in preference to a swab, see pus in test directory for more information</p> <p>Please give detailed clinical information, including date of onset/contact with the suspected infection and any current or intended antibiotic therapy</p>
Part of Profile / See Also	<p>Microscopy: dependent on site and clinical information received.</p> <p>Culture: all wound swabs are cultured for aerobic organisms. Culture for anaerobic organisms and other investigations may be performed, dependent on sample site and clinical information received.</p>
Request Form	<p>Order comms request i.e., ICE or Medway or clearly handwritten Microbiology forms where order comms are not available</p>
Availability / Frequency of Analysis	<p>On request during normal working hours</p>
Turnaround Time	<p>5 days</p>
Patient Preparation	
Sample Requirements	<p>Samples should be transported to the laboratory on the day of collection.</p>
Specimen Type	<p>Bacterial swab in transport medium.</p>
Volume	
Container	<p>As above</p>
Reference Range & Units	
Interferences	<p>Quality of the sample may deteriorate if there is a delay in processing and isolation of certain organisms particularly anaerobes maybe compromised.</p>
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	
References	<p>UK SMI Bacteriology B 11 Issue no: 6.5 Issue date: 19.12.18 Investigation of skin and superficial soft tissue infections</p>
Test code	<p>RCUL</p>
Lab Handling	<p>Samples should be processed as soon as possible.</p>