



Suprapubic Aspirate

Synonyms

SPA

Clinical Indication

Suprapubic discomfort
 Please give detailed clinical information, including date of onset and any current or intended antibiotic therapy

Part of Profile / See Also

Microscopy: usually performed by the IQ Sprint. The IQ Sprint is an automated urine analyser that uses digital imaging for WBC, RBC, bacteria and small particle count.
Culture for significant aerobic and anaerobic pathogens

Request Form

Order comms request (ICE or Medway) or clearly handwritten Microbiology request form where order comms are not available

Availability / Frequency of Analysis

On receipt during working day

Turnaround Time

Microscopy: 24 hours

Culture: [72 hours](#)

Patient Preparation

Sample Requirements

Specimens should be transported and processed within 4 hours if possible. Where delays in processing are unavoidable, refrigeration at 4°C is recommended.

Specimen Type

Suprapubic aspirate urine is obtained aseptically, directly from the bladder by aspiration with a needle and syringe. The use of this invasive procedure is usually reserved for clarification of equivocal results from voided urine (e.g., in infants and small children). Ultrasound guidance should be used to show presence of urine in the bladder before carrying out SPA.

Volume

A minimum of 3 ml of specimen is required for the IQ200. If less specimen than 1 ml is received, manual microscopy is to be performed prior to culture.

Container White top sterile universal container – CE marked



Reference Range & Units Suprapubic aspirates require culture irrespective of microscopy results.

Interferences Inadequately collected specimens may result in misleading results being obtained.

Interpretation & Clinical Positive culture results will be reported with antibiotic susceptibilities where appropriate.

Decision Value (if applicable)

References [UK SMI – Investigation of urine | B 41 | Issue no: 8.7 | Issue date: 11.01.19 |](#)

Test code UMIC

Lab Handling Samples should be processed as soon as possible upon receipt and in compliance with the Sample Requirements as stated above.