

**MICROBIOLOGY
OUT OF HOURS SERVICE
INFORMATION SHEET**

Q-Pulse No	MWS21
Version	1
Site	HUB Microbiology

Out of normal working hours, the on-call Microbiology Biomedical Scientist should be contacted through the hospital switchboard (MPH or YDH as required). This laboratory service is for processing urgent specimens when the result may affect the immediate management of the patient. **(Please note that the On-Call Biomedical Scientist is not on site and must be telephoned for all urgent specimens)**

The Consultant Medical Microbiologists provide a 24-hour service for clinical advice. Out-of-hours they may be contacted through the hospital switchboard (either MPH or YDH).

Specimens that will be examined out-of-hours:

Fluids – from normally sterile sites, including CSF, joint, pleural etc.

Pus – aspirates and intra-operative samples only.

Eyes – fluids, corneal scrapes and urgent swabs from Ophthalmology.

Urine – SPAs, MSUs from pregnant women and young children (pre-operative urines can be batched - to be done later with other emergency specimens)

HIV screen, considered for inoculation incident or organ donation only – **approval for testing must be obtained from Consultant Microbiologist**

NB. Other tests must be approved by Consultant Microbiologist

(Antibiotic assays – these are now performed in Biochemistry Dept)