

## Microbiology and Virology requests.

### Notes:

#### Blood samples

SST blood sample (Adult = Yellow top, Paediatric = Clear top),

EDTA blood sample (Adult = Purple top, Paediatric = Clear top).

For blood tests if more than 3 tests are required please send additional SST/EDTA blood sample.

#### Referred samples

Most referral requests will be discussed/approved by Consultant Microbiologist prior to sending.

If referral for testing is not considered appropriate a report will be issued indicating why test is not considered relevant or requesting further discussion with Consultant Microbiologist to clarify clinical indications for testing.

For bacterial and fungal culture requests significant Isolates may be referred to appropriate reference laboratory for further identification/additional antimicrobial sensitivities at request of Consultant Microbiologist.

Any clinically relevant results from such referrals will be reported back to sending clinician.

#### Microbiology culture requests

Please ensure any current or intended antibiotics are listed on request.

Microbiology: Test detail including turnaround times

Qpulse document number MWS7, Version 5

This is a controlled document and must not be printed or copied.

Request Description	Sample Type	Sample Container	Turnaround time (days)	Reference laboratory	Special instructions/Volume required.
16s PCR	Tissue, Fluid	Plain, sterile container	14	GOS, London	Discuss with Consultant Microbiologist
Abacavir Hypersensitivity	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	20	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>Separate EDTA sample required.</b>
Acanthamoeba PCR (Corneal Aspirate)	Corneal Ulcer Aspirate	Plain, sterile container	5	Lab 21, Park House, Milton, Cambridge	<b>Minimum volume 175 µl.</b>
Acanthamoeba PCR (Corneal Swab)	Corneal swab	Plain, dry swab	5	Lab 21, Park House, Milton, Cambridge	Holding the swab parallel to the cornea, gently rub the conjunctiva of the lower lid, avoiding contact with the outer eyelid.
Adenovirus PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	7	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Adenovirus PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Adenovirus PCR	Nose/Throat or Pharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Amniotic Fluid microscopy and culture	Amniotic Fluid (AMN)	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Amoebic Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Anaplasma Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	
Antenatal HBsAg	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		Request for antenatal infection screen. If completing manual request, please ensure 'antenatal infection screen' box is ticked. Indicate any declined tests on line next to box. Please ensure maternity unit for delivery is clearly stated on request. <b>2 x SST required for this test group.</b>
Antenatal HIV 1+2 Ag/Ab EIA	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
Antenatal Syphilis Antibody	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
Antibiotic level - Amikacin	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	
Antibiotic level - Ethambutol	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	5	Cardiff Toxicology laboratory, Penarth	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.

Antibiotic level - Isoniazid	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Antibiotic level - Rifampicin	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Antibiotic level - Teicoplanin	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	
Antifungal level - 5-Flucytosine	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Antifungal level - Itraconazole	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Antifungal level - Voriconazole	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Anti-streptococcal Serology (ASO)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE South West, Bristol	
Antral Washout microscopy and culture	Antral Washout	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Aqueous Humour Fluid microscopy and culture	Aqueous Fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Arbovirus Serology (including Dengue)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	See special instructions for ?VHF further down list.
Arthropod for Identification	Arthropod	Plain, sterile container	2		
Ascitic Fluid (BC Bottles)	Ascitic Fluid (BC Bottles)	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Note: Blood culture bottles will be loaded onto analysers 24/7 at ESL on both MPH and YDH hospital sites. Blood cultures should be sent to laboratory as soon as possible after taking. Use of specimen pod system is recommended.
Ascitic Fluid (Microscopy and culture)	Ascitic Fluid (AF)	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Ascitic Fluid (without cell count)	Ascitic Fluid (AF)	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Aspergillus Antigen	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
Aspergillus precipitins	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
Aspirate microscopy and culture	Aspirate	Plain, sterile container	2		Please indicate site of specimen in clinical details.
Avian precipitins	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE South West, Bristol	
B. anthracis investigation	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	Must be discussed with Consultant Microbiologist.
Babesia Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Beta Glucan Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
Bile microscopy and culture	Bile	Plain, sterile container	2		
Biopsy microscopy and culture	Biopsy	Plain, sterile container	2		Please indicate site of specimen in clinical details.
Blastomyces Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE South West, Bristol	
Blood Clot culture	Blood clot	Plain, sterile container	2		
Blood Culture - Adult Set	Blood Culture (Blue+Purple Top)	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture - Paediatric	Blood Culture (Paed. Pink/Silver)	Pink/Silver coloured top blood culture bottle	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture - Paediatric with Anaerobic Bottle	Blood Culture (Paed. Silver)	Pink/Silver coloured top + Purple top blood culture bottles	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture (Mycobacteria - order bottle)	Blood culture MAI		Up to 8 weeks.		TB Blood Culture bottles must be requested from Microbiology in advance of sample being taken. Once inoculated, TB culture bottles must be returned to Microbiology as soon as possible.

Blood Culture Blue Lumen	BC Blue Lumen	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture Brown Lumen	BC Brown Lumen	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture Green Lumen	BC Green Lumen	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture Grey Lumen	BC Grey Lumen	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture Peripheral	BC Peripheral	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture PICC Line	BC PICC Line	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture Red Lumen	BC Red Lumen	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture White Lumen	BC White Lumen	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Blood Culture Yellow Lumen	BC Yellow Lumen	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Bone culture	Bone	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Bone Marrow - TB/Mycobacterium (Order Bottle)	Bone marrow	TB Blood Culture bottles	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		Blood cultures and bone marrow aspirates for Mycobacterial culture will only be performed following discussion with Consultant Microbiologist. The bottles will then be provided on request. Bottle fill volume 1 - 5 ml. Inoculated bottles must be returned to the laboratory before 13:00 same day.
Bone Marrow (Adult Blood Culture Set)	Bone marrow	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please inoculate bone marrow aspirates and stem cells into blood culture bottles. If small volume (<7 ml), then please inoculate the blue cap aerobic bottle first.
Bordetella pertussis Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE Colindale, London	Must be at least 2 weeks post onset of symptoms.
Breast Fluid culture	Breast Fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		
Breast milk culture	Breast Milk	Plain, sterile container	2		
Bronchial Aspirate microscopy and culture	Bronchial Aspirate	Plain, sterile container	2		
Bronchial Biopsy microscopy and culture	Bronchial biopsy	Plain, sterile container	2		
Bronchial Trap microscopy and culture	Bronchial trap	Plain, sterile container	2		
Bronchial Washings/Lavage microscopy and culture	Bronchial washings	Plain, sterile container	2		

Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL) microscopy and culture	Bronchoalveolar lavage	Plain, sterile container	2		
Brucella Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Liverpool clinical laboratories, Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospital Trust.	Please give details of any contact with animals and/or contact with unpasteurised milk.
Canalicular Pus culture	Pus material	Plain, sterile container	2		
Candida Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
CAPD (Peritoneal Dialysis) Fluid culture	Dialysis fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		
Cat Scratch Disease Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Labco Nôus, Barcelona	Specialist test no longer available in the UK. Requires discussion with Consultant Microbiologist.
Central Line Tip culture	Central line tip		2		
Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) microscopy and culture	Cerebrospinal Fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		Bottles 1 and 3 should be sent for culture. Bottle 1 will only be counted if SAH is suspected. Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Chest Drain Tip culture	Chest drain tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Chlamydia PCR	Urine	Aptima Collection kit	1		
Chlamydia PCR	Nose and Throat/Pharyngeal swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Chlamydia PCR	Cervical Swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection
Chlamydia PCR	High Vaginal Swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection
Chlamydia PCR	Low Vaginal swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection
Chlamydia PCR	Rectal swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Chlamydia PCR	Eye swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Chlamydia PCR	Skin swab (other)	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Chlamydia Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	This is for investigation of fertility/PID only. For investigation of genital infection, please send swab from appropriate site or plain urine using Aptima collection kits. For respiratory Chlamydia infections please request Respiratory infection screen.
Clostridium botulinum toxin	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	Must be discussed with Consultant Microbiologist. Samples must be taken as soon as possible after onset of symptoms.
Clot culture	Clot	Plain, sterile container	2		
CMV IgG Antibody	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
CMV IgM Antibody	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
Coccidioides Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
Colistin Assay	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	
Colomycin Assay	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	
Contact Lens culture	Contact lens	Plain, sterile container	2		
Contact Lens Fluid culture	Lens fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		

Corneal Scrape culture	Corneal scrape	Directly inoculated onto culture plates.	2		Please check dates of plates prior to use. Contact the laboratory for replacements.
Corneal Swab culture	Corneal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Cough Swab (Cystic Fibrosis only) culture	Cough swab	Sputum pot	2		Cough swabs are only suitable for patients with cystic fibrosis. Samples from other patients will be rejected.
Coxiella burnetii PCR	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	This is NOT a routine Q fever request. Only to be requested on discussion with Consultant Microbiologist
CPE - Carbapenamase Screen (Rectal)	Rectal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	4		Sample positive by initial screening will require further testing and referral to specialist reference laboratory which will extend turnaround time. <b>Patient screen requires 3 x samples taken over 3 days.</b>
CPE (Carbapenamase) Screen (Faeces)	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	4		Sample positive by initial screening will require further testing and referral to specialist reference laboratory which will extend turnaround time. <b>Patient screen requires 3 x samples taken over 3 days.</b>
Cryptococcal Antigen	CSF	Plain, sterile container	10	PHE South West, Bristol	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Cryptococcal Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
Currettings culture	Currettings	Plain, sterile container	2		
CVC Line Tip culture	CVC TIP	Plain, sterile container	2		
CVP Line Tip culture	CVP tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Cysticercosis Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	Please request this test if advised by laboratory/Consultant Microbiologist or if patient is immunocompromised. For all other situations please request serology/infection screen on clotted blood.
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) PCR	Urine	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	This test is for investigation of congenital CMV only. Samples should be taken within first 5 weeks from birth (preferably within 2 weeks of birth) <b>Please send 3 x urine samples taken on separate occasions.</b>
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) PCR	Nose/Throat or Pharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) PCR	Bronchial Wash /Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL)	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) PCR	Tissue	Sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) PCR	Fluid	Sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Eye fluids (Vitreous/aqueous humour) processed as requested by clinician. For all other fluids Consultant Microbiologist approval required.
Daptomycin Assay	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	
Dental Abscess Swab culture	Pus swab		2		
Diphtheria (post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	20	PHE Colindale, London	This is for immunity post vaccine only. It is NOT a diagnostic test.
Drain Fluid culture	Drain Fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		
Drain Tip culture	Drain Tip	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Duodenal Aspirate culture	Duodenal aspirate	Plain, sterile container	2		
Ear Swab (Inner Ear/Mastoiditis) culture	Ear swab	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs
Ear swab culture	Ear swab	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		Ensure no therapeutic agents are applied to the area for 3 hours prior to swabbing. Placing the swab in the outer ear, rotate it gently.
EBV PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	Please request this test if advised by laboratory/Consultant Microbiologist or if patient is immunocompromised. For all other situations please request serology/infection screen on clotted blood.

EBV PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
EBV PCR	Fluid	Sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Eye fluids (Vitreous/aqueous humour) processed as requested by clinician. For all other fluids Consultant Microbiologist approval required.
EBV Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	2		
Endometrial washings culture	Endometrial washings	Plain, sterile container	2		
Endotracheal Aspirate culture	Endotracheal asp.	Plain, sterile container	2		
Endotracheal Secretions culture	Endotrach. secretion	Plain, sterile container	2		
Endotracheal Tip culture	Endotracheal tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Endotracheal Trap culture	Endotracheal Trap	Plain, sterile container	2		
Enterovirus PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Enterovirus PCR	Nose/Throat or Pharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Enterovirus PCR	Faeces	Sterile container/faeces pot	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Enterovirus PCR	Fluid	Sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Eye fluids (Vitreous/aqueous humour) processed as requested by clinician. For all other fluids Consultant Microbiologist approval required.
Enterovirus PCR	Skin swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing. Please ensure site of sample stated on request.
Enterovirus PCR	CSF	plain sterile container	1		Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Enterovirus Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Epsom General Hospital, Epsom.	
Epidural Tip culture	Epidural tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Eye (conjunctival) swab (Not Neonates) culture	Eye swab (EYE)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Urgent out-of hours processing available for ophthalmology requests only.
Eye (other) culture	Eye (other)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Urgent out-of hours processing available for ophthalmology requests only.
Eye Swab (Blepharitis) culture	Eye swab (EYE)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Urgent out-of hours processing available for ophthalmology requests only.
Eye Swab (Complications) microscopy and culture	Eye swab (EYE)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Urgent out-of hours processing available for ophthalmology requests only.
Eye Swab (Less than 1 week old) culture	Eye swab (EYE)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Urgent out-of hours processing available for ophthalmology requests only.
Eye Swab (Severely Immunocompromised) culture	Eye swab (EYE)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Urgent out-of hours processing available for ophthalmology requests only.
Faeces - Culture inc. Yersinia (Lymphadenopathy / Abdo Pain)	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	3		
Faeces Culture - Travel outside Europe/N. America Suspected Yersinia	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	3		Please list details of countries traveled to and dates in clinical details. Please note: Yersinia testing will be performed where clinical details state appendicitis, lymphadenitis, terminal ileitis or reactive arthritis.
Faeces Culture - Travel outside of Europe/N. America	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	3		
Faeces Culture - with Yersinia Culture	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	3		
Faeces Culture (includes Cryptosporidium and Giardia) - UK	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	3		
Faeces Culture and Parasitology	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	3		
Faeces Culture and Parasitology - Europe/North	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	3		Please list details of countries traveled to and dates in clinical details.
Faeces Parasitology Only	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	1		Please note: all faeces samples are routinely processed for cryptococcus and giardia. Only use this request if further parasite investigation is required. Please list details of any recent foreign travel.

Faeces-C. difficile Test	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	4 hours		<b>Please ensure faeces culture requested in addition to C. diff. testing.</b> Repeat testing of positive patients is not indicated within 28 days. Please state how long since hospital admission in clinical details.
Farmers Lung Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE South West, Bristol	
Fasciola Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Filaria Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Fine Needle Aspirate culture	Fine needle aspirate	Plain, sterile container	2		
Fluid - Pouch of Douglas culture	Pouch of Douglas Fl.	Plain, sterile container	2		
Fluid/Aspirate - Other culture	Fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Foreign Body culture	Foreign body	Plain, sterile container	2		
Fungal/Mycology - Finger Nail	Finger nail	Plain, sterile container	4 (Microscopy)		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Fungal Culture. Fungal culture may take up to 4 weeks.
Fungal/Mycology - Hair	Hair	Plain, sterile container	4 (Microscopy)		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Fungal Culture. Fungal culture may take up to 4 weeks.
Fungal/Mycology - Skin Scrapings	Skin scrapings	Plain, sterile container	4 (Microscopy)		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Fungal Culture. Fungal culture may take up to 4 weeks.
Fungal/Mycology - Toe Nail	Toe nail	Plain, sterile container	4 (Microscopy)		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Fungal Culture. Fungal culture may take up to 4 weeks.
Gastric Aspirate culture	Gastric aspirate	Plain, sterile container	2		
Gastric Biopsy culture	Gastric biopsy	Plain, sterile container	2		
Genital Culture - Cervix	Cervical swab (Micro)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		Clean cervix. Insert tip of swab completely into cervical os and rotate through 180 degrees. Send swab to lab without delay; do not refrigerate.
Genital Culture - Clitoris	Clitoris swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Endocervical	Endocervical swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		Clean cervix. Insert tip of swab completely into cervical os and rotate through 180 degrees. Send swab to lab without delay; do not refrigerate.
Genital Culture - Foreskin.	Prepuce swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Glans	Glans swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - HVS Candida Sensitivity	High vaginal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs.
Genital Culture - HVS Culture only..	High vaginal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs.
Genital Culture - HVS Culture with Bacterial	High vaginal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs.
Genital Culture - HVS Culture with BV and	High vaginal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs.
Genital Culture - HVS Culture with Trichomonas.	High vaginal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs.
Genital Culture - Labia	Labial swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - LVS	Low vaginal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Penile	Penile swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Perineum	Perineal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Rectal.	Rectal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Sub-Prepuce.	Sub-prepuce swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Urethra	Urethral Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs.
Genital Culture - Vaginal	Vaginal Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.

Genital Culture - Vault	Vault swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Genital Culture - Vulva	Vulval swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Gingival Swab culture	Gingival Swab		2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Haemophilus ducreyi PCR	Vulval swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	20	PHE Colindale, London	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Haemophilus influenza B (post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	20	PHE Manchester	This is for immunity post vaccine only. It is NOT a diagnostic test.
Hantavirus PCR	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	
Hantavirus Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	
HBV Resistance Genotyping	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE Colindale, London	For HIV positive patient monitoring. This is NOT a routine screen. All current and past antiretroviral drugs MUST be listed in clinical details. <b>2 x EDTA samples required.</b>
Helicobacter pylori Antibody	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5		Antibody testing for specific clinical profiles only. See clinical guidance on separate link. Further information provided on electronic order system.
Helicobacter pylori Antigen	Faeces	Sterile faeces pot (blue top)	2		This test is contra-indicated where patient has recent GI bleed or is on PPIs. Please see separate link to clinical guidance for H. pylori infection.
Hepatitis A (immunity/post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	2		This test should only be requested where immune antibody response to Hepatitis A following infection/vaccination is required. This test is NOT a routine screen.
Hepatitis A IgM (infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
Hepatitis B (DNA Viral Load monitoring)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE Colindale, London	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x SST samples required.</b>
Hepatitis B (positive markers)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE South West, Bristol	For confirmation follow up of positive Hepatitis B patient. This is NOT a routine screen.
Hepatitis B core antibody (CORE)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		This test looks for natural immunity to Hepatitis B following infection. It is NOT and infection screen.
Hepatitis B Serology (positive markers) follow up	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE Colindale, London	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x SST samples required.</b>
Hepatitis B surface Antibody (post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		This test is for immunity following Hep B vaccine only. Please give details of vaccine history.
Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg/infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
Hepatitis C (Genotype)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE Colindale, London	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x SST samples required.</b>
Hepatitis C (HCV) PCR	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE South West, Bristol	<b>2 x SST samples required.</b>
Hepatitis C (infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		Positive samples will require further testing extending TAT
Hepatitis C (RNA Viral Load monitoring)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	3	PHE Colindale, London	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x SST samples required.</b>
Hepatitis C (RNA Viral Load monitoring)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	3		This test is for monitoring of Hepatitis C positive patients on treatment. It is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x EDTA required.</b>
Hepatitis D (infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE Colindale, London	This test is only indicated if patient is Hepatitis B positive. This test should NOT be requested as part of a routine viral hepatitis investigation screen.
Hepatitis E (infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE Colindale, London	
Herpes simplex (HSV) PCR	Nose and Throat/Pharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	3		
Herpes simplex (HSV) PCR	Low Vaginal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	3		
Herpes simplex (HSV) PCR	Rectal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	3		
Herpes simplex (HSV) PCR	Eye swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	3		
Herpes simplex (HSV) PCR	Skin swab (other)	Virocult green top liquid swab	3		Please specify site of swab in clinical details.



Herpes simplex (HSV) PCR	Mouth Swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	3		
Herpes simplex (HSV) PCR	CSF	plain sterile container	1		Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Herpes simplex virus (HSV) PCR	Fluid	Sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Eye fluids (Vitreous/aqueous humour) and vesicle fluid processed as requested by clinician. For all other fluids Consultant Microbiologist approval required.
Herpes simplex virus (HSV) Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South East, Southampton	This test is for follow up of antenatal patients with positive HSV PCR detection from genital swab, or where congenital HSV infection is suspected. HSV serology is unhelpful in diagnosis of current HSV infection, where swab from infected site or EDTA (if systemic infection) for PCR testing are required.
Hickman Line Tip culture	Hickman line tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Histoplasma Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
HIV 1 Viral Load	CSF	Plain, sterile container	10	PHE South West, Bristol	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. Please ensure EDTA sample also sent for HIV Viral Load at same time as this request. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample).
HIV 1 Viral Load	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	14		This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x EDTA samples required.</b>
HIV 1+2 Antigen/Antibody (infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		Positive samples will require further testing extending TAT. Out of hours testing available on discussion/agreement with Consultant Microbiologist.
HIV 2 Viral Load	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	University College Hospital, London	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x EDTA samples required.</b>
HIV Drug Resistance Genotyping	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	15	Viral Resistance laboratory, Birmingham Heartlands Hospital, Birmingham	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x EDTA samples required.</b>
HIV Seroconversion testing.	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE Colindale, London	This test should only be requested on discussion with HIV clinical team/Starling clinic where recent acquisition on HIV is suspected.
HIV Tropism	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	15	Viral Resistance laboratory, Birmingham Heartlands Hospital, Birmingham	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>Separate EDTA sample required.</b>
HIV Vertical Transmission	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	PHE Colindale, London	This test is for monitoring possible maternal transfer of HIV from positive mother to baby. Samples should be sent from both Mother and baby for first instance. Following this, EDTA from baby only can be sent. Please ensure mother's name is clearly identified in clinical details.
HTLV Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
Human herpes virus 6 (HHV6) PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Human herpes virus 6 (HHV6) PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Human herpes virus 8 (HHV8) PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	PHE Colindale, London	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Human herpes virus 8 (HHV8) PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE Colindale, London	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Hydatid Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Hydrocoele Fluid culture	Hydrocoele fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		
Hydroxychloroquine level	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Unite des Rickettsies, Centre National de Reference, Marseilles	This is a specialist test not available in the UK. This test MUST be discussed with Consultant Microbiologist before sending.
Ileostomy Fluid culture	Ileostomy fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		
Influenza PCR (Flu)	Nose and Throat/ Nasopharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	1		Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing. Please note: Nasopharyngeal swab is preferable to throat swab for molecular detection of respiratory viruses.
Influenza PCR (Flu)	Nasopharyngeal aspirate (NPA)	Plain sterile container	1		Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.

Influenza PCR (Flu)	Bronchial Wash /Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL)	Plain sterile container			Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Insect for Identification	Insect	Plain, sterile container	2		
Introital Swab culture	Introital swab		2		
IV Cannula Site culture	IV cannula site	Plain, sterile container	2		
Jejunal Aspirate for Parasitology culture	Jejunal aspirate	Plain, sterile container	2		
Joint Fluid (Blood Culture Bottles)	Joint Fluid (BC Bottles)	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		
Joint Fluid / Aspirate microscopy and culture	Joint Fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Keratitis PCR			5		This test requires Ophthalmology Consultant approval and its use is being monitored.
Legionella Antigen	Urine	Plain sterile container	1		This test will only be performed if CURB65 score is ≥2 or if recent travel abroad. Please ensure CURB65 score and relevant travel history given on request.
Leishmania Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Leptospira Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	Please give details of any contact with animals and/or contaminated water.
LGV	Rectal swab	Aptima collection kit	14	PHE Colindale, London	This sample will only be processed if Chlamydia PCR positive and relevant clinical details given. See separate information on Aptima collection kits under Chlamydia section.
Line Tip - Arterial culture	Arterial line tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Line/Catheter Tip - culture	Line/catheter tip	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Liquor culture	Liquour	Plain, sterile container	2		
Long Line Tip culture	Long line tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Lyme Disease (CSF)	CSF	Plain, sterile container	14	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing. This test will only be performed if Lyme serology is positive.
Lyme disease serology (B.burgdorferi)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	2		Screening test, positive samples referred for further testing.
Lymph Node (Micro) Culture	Lymph node	Plain, sterile container	2		
Malaria Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	Note: for diagnosis of acute malaria please send EDTA for Malaria film.
Measels (immunity/post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	2		
Measles virus (infection/rash screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	7		
Meconium culture	Meconium	Plain, sterile container	2		
Meningococcal PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	Meningococcal reference lab, Manchester	
Meningococcal PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	Meningococcal reference lab, Manchester	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Meningococcal Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Meningococcal reference lab, Manchester	This test should only be requested as part of enhanced Meningococcal surveillance. It is NOT a routine screen. Samples must be submitted with completed sample submission form MenSAM01
Microscopy for NSU (urethral)	Urethral Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs.
Middle Ear Pus culture	Pus material	Plain, sterile container	2		
Mouth swab culture	Mouth Swab (MS)	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		
MRSA - Fast Track/Urgent (PCR)	Nose swab	COPAN Double headed swab - Red cap	1		Please note: Nose swab only validated for this test. All other swabs for MRSA testing will be processed by culture.
MRSA Screen - 1. Nose	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	1		
MRSA Screen - 2. Groin	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	1		
MRSA Screen - Other Site	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	1		

MRSA/MSSA Screen - 1. Nose	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		
MRSA/MSSA Screen - 2. Groin	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		
MSSA Screen - 1. (Nose)	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		
MSSA Screen - 2. (Groin)	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		
MSSA Screen (Other)	Staph Screen	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		
Mumps (immunity/post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	
Mumps (infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	7		
Mumps PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	PHE Colindale, London	
Mumps PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE Colindale, London	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Mycoplasma pneumoniae IgM	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5		
Nasal Discharge/Secretions culture	Nasal Discharge	Plain, sterile container	2		
Nasal Secretions culture	Nasal secretions	Plain, sterile container	2		
Nasopharyngeal Aspirate (Bacterial Culture Only)	Nasopharyngeal asp.	Plain, sterile container	2		
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	Urine	Aptima Collection kit	1		
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	Nose and Throat/Pharyngeal swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	Cervical Swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	High Vaginal Swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	Low Vaginal swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	Rectal swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	Eye swab	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) PCR	Skin swab (other)	Aptima collection kit	1		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Chlamydia Detection. Note: specimen type not validated for NAATs assay - Positive samples will require confirmation testing extending TAT.
Neonatal Screen - Nasal Swab culture	Nose Swab	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Neonatal Screen - Umbilical Swab culture	Umbilical swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		See further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Norovirus PCR	Faeces	Sterile faeces pot (blue cap)	1		Testing is performed on approval from Infection Control Team. <b>Please ensure Faeces culture and C. diff testing also requested.</b>
Norovirus PCR	Vomit	Plain sterile container	1		Testing is performed on approval from Infection Control Team. Please note: Vomit cannot be processed for bacterial culture.
Nose swab (Not MRSA) culture	Nose Swab	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		Moisten swab with sterile water or saline. Move the swab from the anterior nares to the tip of the nose, rotating gently.
Pacemaker culture	Pacemaker	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pacing Wire Tip culture	Pacing Wire Tip	Plain, sterile container	2		

Parvovirus PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	This is NOT a routine Parovirus immunity screen. This test is for confirmation of current Parvovirus infection only (Parvovirus IgM positive).
Parvovirus Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5		Urgent testing can be arranged via Consultant Microbiologist.
Paul Bunnell (PB Monospot)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
PEG Feed Tube culture	PEG Feed Tube	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pericardial Fluid culture	Pericardial Fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		
Peripheral Line Tip culture	Peripheral line tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Peritoneal Fluid culture	Peritoneal fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pernasal Swab (Whooping Cough/Pertussis)	Pernasal swab	Anies transwab - light blue cap with flexible wire pernasal swab.	2		Use a special small swab on a flexible wire stem. Pass it along the floor of the nasal cavity to the posterior wall of the nasopharynx, rotating it gently. State immunisation status of child on request form.
Pharyngeal culture	Pharyngeal swab	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		see further informaiton under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs
Pharyngeal plate culture	Pharyngeal plate	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pharyngeal suct. Tip culture	Pharyngeal suct. tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
PICC Line Tip culture	PICC Line Tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Placenta culture	Placenta	Plain, sterile container	2		
Platelets culture	Platelets	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pleural Biopsy (Micro)	Pleural biopsy	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pleural Biopsy culture	Pleural biopsy	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pleural Fluid (BC Bottles)	Pleural fluid Micro	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Pleural Fluid/Aspirate microscopy and culture	Pleural fluid Micro	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Pneumococcal antigen	CSF	plain sterile container	1		Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Pneumococcal Antigen	Urine	Plain sterile container	1		This test will only be performed if CURB65 score is ≥2. This test is NOT indicated if child age <5
Pneumococcal PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	5	Meningococcal reference lab, Manchester	
Pneumococcal PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	Meningococcal reference lab, Manchester	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Pneumococcal Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	24	PHE Manchester	This is for immunity post vaccine only. It is NOT a diagnostic test. In patients with absent or dysfunctional spleen, testing for pneumococcal antibodies is NOT useful. Re-vaccination is recommended every 5 years.
Pneumocystis jirovecii	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	5	PHE South West, Bristol	
Pneumocystis jirovecii	Nose/Throat or Pharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Pneumocystis jirovecii (PCP)	Bronchial Wash /Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL)	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Polyoma (BK)	Urine	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Polyoma (JC)	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	5	PHE Colindale, London	
Polyoma virus PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE Colindale, London	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Posaconazole	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	PHE South West, Bristol	
Prosthetic Material culture	Prosthetic Material	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Pseudomonas aeruginosa Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	PHE Colindale, London	
Pulmonary Arterial Line Tip culture	Pulmonary Arterial Line Tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pus - Dental Abscess culture	Pus material	Plain, sterile container	2		

Pus - Neck Abscess culture	Pus material	Plain, sterile container	2		
Pus Material (Not swab) + Fungal	Pus material	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available for intra-operative samples only - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Pus Material (Not swab) culture	Pus material	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available for intra-operative samples only - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
Q fever serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	7		Q-fever infection screen (Coxiella burnetii). Positive samples referred for further testing.
Respiratory infection screen (CFT/Atypical serology)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	7		Respiratory CFT screen includes Influenza A, Influenza B, Psittacosis, Q fever, Adenovirus, Mycoplasma and RSV.
Respiratory screen PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Respiratory screen PCR	Nose/Throat or Pharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Respiratory screen PCR	Nasopharyngeal Aspirate (NPA)	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	RSV will be tested initially. Further molecular testing will only be undertaken if approved by Consultant Microbiologist.
Respiratory screen PCR	Bronchial Wash /Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL)	Plain, sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Respiratory Scyncytial virus (RSV).	Nasopharyngeal asp.	Plain, sterile container	1		
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Nose and Throat/Pharyngeal swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	1		Please note: Nasopharyngeal swab only validated for this test. Nose and Throat swabs may be tested on approval from Consultant Microbiologist however results must be interpreted with caution in light of clinical findings.
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Nasopharyngeal aspirate (NPA)	Plain sterile container	1		
Rotavirus and Adenovirus.	Faeces (F)	Blue top faeces pot	1		This test will be processed on children under 5 only.
Rubella IgG (immunity/post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		
Rubella specific (infection/rash screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	2		
Saliva culture	Saliva(Microbiology)	Plain, sterile container	2		
Sample to store for future virology testing.	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		Original sample will be stored for 7 days. Following this a small aliquot will be stored for 2 years.
Schistosoma Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	20	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Secretions - (Other) culture	Secretions	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Sellotape Slide (Enterobius/Threadworm)	Sellotape Slide	Sellotape on glass slide in sterile container, preferably slide container.	2		After collecting rectal impression, please attach sellotape to a glass slide, trying to keep it as unwrinkled as possible.
Seminal Fluid (Culture Only)	Seminal fluid;	Plain, sterile container	2		
Seroma Fluid culture	Seroma	Plain, sterile container	2		
Skin Swab - Axilla culture (Not MRSA Screen)	Axilla Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Groin culture (Not MRSA Screen)	Groin swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Line Site culture	CVP site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Line Site with Fungal culture	CVP site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Peg Site culture	Peg site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Peg Site with Fungal culture	Peg site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Sacrum culture	Sacral swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.

Skin Swab - Scalp culture	Scalp swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Supra-pubic Catheter Site culture	Supra pub.cath.site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Supra-pubic Region culture	Suprapubic swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - T Tube Site culture	T tube site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - T Tube Site with Fungal culture	T tube site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab - Venflon Site culture	Venflon site swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Skin Swab (Other) culture	Skin swab (SK)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Sputum (Bronchiectasis) culture	Sputum Micro	Sputum pot	2		Sputum should be submitted in 50 ml wide container.
Sputum (Induced) culture	Sputum (induced)	Sputum pot	2		Sputum should be submitted in 50 ml wide container.
Sputum (ITU) culture	Sputum Micro	Sputum pot	2		Sputum should be submitted in 50 ml wide container.
Sputum (Legionella) culture	Sputum Micro	Sputum pot	2		Sputum should be submitted in 50 ml wide container.
Sputum (Routine culture+MRSA Screen)	Sputum Micro	Sputum pot	2		
Sputum. (Micro) culture	Sputum Micro	Sputum pot	2		Sputum should be submitted in 50 ml wide container.
Stem Cells (Blood Culture Bottles)	Stem cells	Blue/Silver coloured top + Purple coloured top blood culture bottles.	Negative cultures reported after 2 days incubation. Bottles incubated for further 3 days - further report issued if become positive.		Please follow appropriate Trust protocol for taking blood culture samples - see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Blood Culture
Stem Cells culture	Stem cells	Plain, sterile container	2		
Stent culture	Stent	Plain, sterile container	2		
Stoma culture	Stoma	Plain, sterile container	2		
Stone culture	Stone (STN)	Plain, sterile container	2		
Streptomycin level	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	5	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	
Strongyloides Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Submandibular Node (Tissue) culture	Tissue	Plain, sterile container	2		
Sub-mandibular Node Culture	Submandibular node	Plain, sterile container	2		
Sutures culture	Sutures	Plain, sterile container	2		
Swab - Anal/Perianal culture	Anal/perianal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Child Vaginal culture	Vaginal Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Conjunctival culture	Conjunctival swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Endometrial culture	Endometrial swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Eyelid culture	Eyelid swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Foreskin culture	Foreskin swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Laryngeal culture	Laryngeal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Lung culture	Lung Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Meatal culture	Meatal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.

Swab - Natal Cleft culture	Natal cleft swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Neonatal Screen Cord Swab culture	Cord swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Other culture	Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Palate culture	Palate swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Penile (Post-op, Catheter etc) culture	Penile swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Placenta culture	Placental swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Pleura culture	Pleural swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Pouch of Douglas culture	Pouch of Douglas swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Prepuce culture	Prepuce swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Rectal (?STD) culture	Rectal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Rectal (routine culture)	Rectal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Scrotum culture	Scrotal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Sub-prepuce culture	Sub-prepuce swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Tongue culture	Tongue swab	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Trachea culture	Tracheal swab	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Swab - Ulcer Culture	Ulcer swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Syphilis (infection screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	1		Testing for Treponema pallidum IgM/IgG. Positive samples will require further testing extending TAT.
Syphilis (positive monitoring)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	10	PHE South West, Bristol	For confirmation follow up of Syphilis positive patient. This is NOT a routine screen.
Syphilis/Chancroid PCR	Vulval swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	20	PHE Colindale, London	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
T. whipplei PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	14	GOSH, London	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
TB QuantiFERON Gold test		TB Quantiferon specialist blood tubes	20	Southmead Hospital, Westbury on Trym, Bristol	<b>Collection kit containing special blood tubes + instruction sheet supplied by SPS lab. 1 ml blood into each tube. Samples are only accepted Monday – Wednesday and must be returned to lab on the day sample taken. Further information available on electronic order system.</b>
TB/Mycobacteria - Bronchial Biopsy	Bronchial biopsy	White top, sterile container	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		
TB/Mycobacteria - Bronchial Wash	Bronchial washing	White top, sterile container	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		
TB/Mycobacteria - CSF	CSF	Plain, sterile container	Up to 8 weeks.		<b>For Fast Track PCR 1 ml CSF sample required.</b> This test is referred to Mycobactera reference laboratory in London.
TB/Mycobacteria - Early Morning Urine (EMU)	Early morning urine	Request special EMU containers from Pathology stores.	Up to 8 weeks.		<b>The whole early morning specimen of urine must be submitted.</b> Boric acid urine containers are NOT suitable for this request.
TB/Mycobacteria - Lymph Node	Lymph node	Plain, sterile container	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		
TB/Mycobacteria - Neck Pus	Pus material	Plain, sterile container	UP to 8 weeks.		

TB/Mycobacteria - Pleural Biopsy	Pleural biopsy	Plain, sterile container			
TB/Mycobacteria - Pleural Fluid	Pleural fluid Micro	White top, sterile container	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		
TB/Mycobacteria - Sputum	Sputum Micro	Sputum pot	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		
TB/Mycobacteria - Sputum	Sputum Micro	White top, sterile container	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		
TB/Mycobacteria - Tissue	Tissue	Plain, sterile container	Microscopy - 24 hours, Culture - up to 8 weeks.		
Tetanus (post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Manchester	This is for immunity post vaccine only. It is NOT a diagnostic test.
Therapeutic Drug Monitoring	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	14	Lab 21, Park House, Milton, Cambridge	This is for monitoring of positive patients on treatment. This is NOT a routine screen. <b>2 x EDTA samples required.</b> This test is arranged through HIV Stirling clinic where specialist request forms are available.
Throat Swab (Diphtheria) culture	Throat Swab (TS)	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Throat swab (Meningococcal Screen)	Throat Swab (TS)	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Throat swab (Not Pertussis) culture	Throat Swab (TS)	Amies Transwab - Orange cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Tissue Culture	Tissue	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Torpedo Study Cough Swab	Cough swab	Sputum pot	2		Sputum should be submitted in 50 ml wide container.
Torpedo Study Sputum	Sputum Micro	Sputum pot	2		Sputum should be submitted in 50 ml wide container.
Toxocara Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	14	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	
Toxoplasma	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	3		Screening test, positive samples referred for further testing.
Toxoplasma PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	5	Toxo Ref lab. Public Health Wales, Swansea	This test should only be requested on advice from laboratory or Consultant Microbiologist. This test is NOT a routine screen.
Toxoplasma PCR	CSF	Plain, sterile container	5	Toxo Ref lab. Public Health Wales, Swansea	All PCR requests require Consultant Microbiologist approval before testing. <b>Minimum 0.5mls CSF required</b> (can perform several PCR tests from single sample)
Tracheal Aspirate Culture	Tracheal aspirate	Plain, sterile container	2		
Tracheal Secretions Culture	Tracheal secretions	Plain, sterile container	2		
Tracheal Washings Culture	Tracheal washings	Plain, sterile container	2		
Tropheryma whipplei PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top (Paediatric red top)	14	GOSH, London	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Trypanosome Serology	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	20	Clinical Parasitology, Hosp. for Tropical Disease, London	Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
UAC Tip Culture	UAC tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Urinary Catheter - Unsuitable Specimen	Urinary catheter				<b>this specimen is not suitable for bacterial culture - please do NOT send.</b>
Urine - (Supra-pubic Aspirate) Microscopy and culture	Supra-pubic aspirate	Red top boric acid container	Microscopy - 1 hour, culture - 24 hours extending to 72 hours if work required to perform susceptibility testing or further organism identification.		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine. Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via hospital switchboard.
Urine - (Unspecified) Microscopy and culture	Urine (unspecified)	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine. If investigation for casts is required, the request <b>must</b> be telephoned to the laboratory. <b>Minimum volume = 5 mls urine.</b>
Urine - Bag Urine Microscopy and culture	Bag specimen urine	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine
Urine - Clean Catch (CCU) Microscopy and culture	Clean catch urine	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine. If investigation for casts is required, the request <b>must</b> be telephoned to the laboratory. <b>Minimum volume = 5 mls urine.</b>
Urine - CSU (Routine Microscopy and culture+MRSA Screen)	Catheter Urine	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine. If investigation for casts is required, the request <b>must</b> be telephoned to the laboratory. <b>Minimum volume = 5 mls urine.</b>



Urine - CSU Microscopy and culture	Catheter Urine	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine. If investigation for casts is required, the request <b>must</b> be telephoned to the laboratory. <b>Minimum volume = 5 mls urine.</b>
Urine - MSU Microscopy and culture	Mid-stream Urine	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine. Urgent out-of hours processing available for pregnant women and young children only - contact on-call BMS via hospital switchboard. <b>Minimum volume = 5 mls urine.</b>
Urine - Nephrostomy culture	Nephrostomy Urine	Plain, sterile container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please specify specimen site in clinical details.
Urine - Ureteric Microscopy and culture	Ureteric urine	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine
Urine - Ureteric Urine (Left) Microscopy and culture	Ureteric Urine (Lt)	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine
Urine - Ureteric Urine (Right) Microscopy and culture	Ureteric urine (Rt)	Red top boric acid container	As above		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine
Urine (?Schistosomiasis/Bilharzia)	Urine (Enteric)	1 or 5 litre sterile collection containers	Microscopy < 24 hours		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Urine
UVC Tip culture	UVC tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Varicella Zoster (VZ) PCR	CSF	plain sterile container	1		Consultant Microbiologist approval required before testing.
Varicella Zoster virus (immunity/post vaccine)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	2		Urgent testing can be arranged via Consultant Microbiologist. Please request this test for immunity screening such as pre-treatment baseline screening or post vaccine/staff occupational health screen. Please ensure any dates of contact are clearly stated on request.
Varicella Zoster virus (infection/rash screen)	Clotted Blood	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top)	7		This test is for investigation of rash illness. This test should NOT be requested for immunity screening such as pre-treatment baseline screening.
Varicella Zoster virus PCR	EDTA	Adult Purple top(Paediatric red top)	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Please request this test if advised by laboratory/Consultant Microbiologist or if patient is immunocompromised. For all other situations please request serology/infection screen on clotted blood.
Varicella Zoster virus PCR	Fluid	Sterile container	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Eye fluids (Vitreous/aqueous humour) and vesicle fluid processed as requested by clinician. For all other fluids Consultant Microbiologist approval required.
Varicella Zoster virus PCR	Skin swab	Virocult green top liquid swab	5	PHE South West, Bristol	Please ensure site of sample stated on request.
VAS Catheter Tip culture	VAC tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Vascular Catheter Tip culture	Vas Cath Tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Venflon Tip culture	Venflon tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
Venous Catheter Tip culture	Catheter tip	Plain, sterile container	2		
VHF (Viral Haemorrhagic Fever e.g. Ebola, Lassa, Marburg, Crimean Congo Virus) Serology	Clotted Blood + EDTA + Urine	Adult SST (Paediatric clear top) + Adult purple top (Paediatric red top) + Urine in plain, sterile container	5	Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory, (RIPL), PHE Porton	<b>Causes of VHF are classed as Category A infection risk. Before taking any specimens request must be discussed with Consultant Microbiologist. Follow process for taking and sending specimens as defined in Trust VHF policy. Information also available on electronic order system. Note: samples must be transported to lab in designated category A container - do NOT use pod system.</b>
Vitreous Humour culture	Vitreous fluid	Plain, sterile container	2		Urgent out-of hours processing available - contact on-call BMS via switchboard.
VRE Screen	VRE Screen	Aimes Transwab - blue cap	2		This request should only be used when directed by Consultant Microbiologist or Infection Control Team.
Washing culture	Washings	Plain, sterile container	2		Please specify specimen site in clinical details
Worm for Identification	Worm	Plain, sterile container	2		
Wound Swab - Abscess culture	Abscess Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Abscess culture with MRSA	Abscess Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.

Wound Swab - Ankle culture	Ankle swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Boil culture	Boil swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Breast culture	Breast swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Buttock culture	Buttock swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Chorion culture	Chorion swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Facial culture	Facial swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Finger culture	Finger swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Foot culture	Foot swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Hand culture	Hand swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Leg culture	Leg swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Leg Ulcer (Diabetic) culture	Leg Ulcer	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Leg Ulcer culture	Leg Ulcer	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Perianal culture	Perianal swab (PE)	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Peritoneal culture	Peritoneal swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Surgical/Trauma culture	Pus swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Surgical/Trauma with Fungal culture	Wound Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Thumb culture	Thumb swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab - Toe culture	Toe swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.

Wound Swab - Umbilicus culture	Umbilical swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab (Child Cellulitis) culture	Wound Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab (Human Bite) culture	Wound Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab (Superficial culture+Fungal)	Wound Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab (Superficial) culture	Wound Swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container.
Wound Swab (Superficial) culture	Superficial wound swab	Amies Transwab - blue cap	2		see further information under Microbiology→specimen collection→Swabs. Please note: pus is preferable to swabs where possible - place in a sterile universal container. Please specify site of swab in clinical details.