








FUNGUS CULTURE

Orderable – FUNG

Turnaround Time: 1 month

Specimen and Collection Information:

Specimen Type	Collection Information	Collection Device
Bronchoalveolar Lavage, Bronchial Wash	Transfer minimum of 1 mL to sterile container. Additional sample required if multiple tests ordered.	
Bone	Transfer to sterile container.	
Blood – <i>Candida</i> , <i>Cryptococcus</i> and yeast like organism	Refer to Blood Culture Laboratory Test Information Guide.	
Blood – <i>Malassezia</i>	Collect blood into heparinized tube. Public Health Ontario Laboratory Requisition required. Indicate <i>Malassezia</i> on requisition.	
Blood – <i>Histoplasma</i>, <i>Blastomyces</i>	Collect 6.0 to 10.0 mL of blood into heparinized tube. Public Health Ontario Laboratory Requisition required. Indicate suspected pathogen on requisition.	
Bone Marrow	Submit in heparinized vacutainer tube. Public Health Ontario Laboratory Requisition required.	
CSF	Submit 2 mL in LP tube or sterile container.	



Laboratory:
Microbiology



Requisition:
Electronic order



Method of Analysis:
Microscopy, culture









Test Schedule:
Referred out weekdays




Referred to:
Certain specimen types or requests may be referred to Public Health Ontario Laboratory
1200 Commissioners Rd E
London, Ontario
519-455-9310

FUNGUS CULTURE

<p>Hair, Skin, Nails</p>	<p>Disinfect the area before collection using 70% alcohol.</p> <p>Collect appropriate samples of skin (scrapings), hair (root ends) or nails (scrapings or clippings). Transport to laboratory using black paper.</p>	 <p>Obtain from Microbiology Lab</p>
<p>Fluid</p>	<p>Transport fluid or pus in a sterile container (orange cap) or Single eSwab (White cap) transport tube (do not include swab)</p>	
<p>Sputum</p>	<p>Have the patient rinse mouth and gargle with water. Instruct the patient not to expectorate saliva or postnasal discharge. Collect an early morning specimen from a deep productive cough. Select blood-stained or purulent portion and send in a sterile container. (Minimum 1 mL)</p>	
<p>Superficial Swabs (throat, ear, eye)</p>	<p>Swabs are discouraged for fungal culture; however, specimens from sites such as the ear canal and throat are not readily collected by other means.</p> <p>Remove the swab and avoid touching the swab applicator below the pink scored breakpoint. Collect the sample by rolling the swab over the site.</p> <p>Insert the swab all the way into the transport tube and holding the end of the swab applicator, bend it toward you until it breaks off.</p> <p>Cap the tube and label appropriately.</p>	
<p>Tissue/Biopsy</p>	<p>Place tissue (1 gram or 1 cubic cm) in a sterile container (Orange cap) with 1-2 mL of sterile saline if needed to prevent desiccation or use a Single eSwab (White cap) transport tube (do not include swab).</p>	
<p>Urine</p>	<p>Collect 4 mL in BD urine vacutainer system. Smaller volumes may be submitted in sterile container.</p>	

FUNGUS CULTURE

<p>Wound - Deep</p>	<p>Remove the swab and avoid touching the swab applicator below the pink scored breakpoint. Collect the sample by rolling the swab over the site. Insert the swab all the way into the transport tube and holding the end of the swab applicator, bend it toward you until it breaks off. Cap the tube and label appropriately.</p>	
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NOTE: Swabs are inferior to biopsy or aspirated samples

Critical Information Required:

If *Histoplasmosis*, *Blastomyces*, *Coccidioides* or *Paracoccidioides* is suspected, indicate this in the **Specimen Description** field when placing the order in PowerChart.

Special Processing:

Based on clinical history and collection device used, some samples may be forwarded to Public Health Ontario Laboratory.

Storage and Shipment:

The specimen must be refrigerated.
The specimen must be received within 24 hours of collection.