

# Microbiology Collection Containers

(Transport at room temperature unless otherwise indicated)

SPECIMEN/TEST	COLLECTION CONTAINERS	TIME LIMITS FOR LAB DELIVERY	COLLECTION CONTAINER PICTURES
<b>Blood Cultures</b> Please include 1 aerobic and 1 anaerobic bottle in each set drawn. Aerobic Bottles have a green top. Anaerobic bottles have an orange top. Pediatric bottles have a yellow top.	Blood Culture bottles: Adult / children over 12 yrs. old: 1 set = 1 Aerobic + 1 Anaerobic. Optimum draw: 2 sets from 2 different sites, 10 ml in each bottle. At least 1 set drawn peripherally. Pediatric Patients and/or Difficult Draws: 1 Pediatric bottle (1 to 4 ml) or 1 Aerobic bottle (>5 to 10 ml).	Lab prefers: <= 24 hrs. Ambient Can be accepted at Ambient incubation up to 5 days	
<b>AFB Culture</b> Note: swabs are not acceptable for AFB (TB) Culture	Tissue, fluid or (3ml minimum) respiratory secretions in sterile container Aspirate with safety syringe tip cap	<= 2 hrs. Ambient	
<b>AFB Blood Culture</b>	SPS AFB Blood Culture Tube– AFB Blood cultures are sent out and must be transported to reference lab within 72 hrs. of collection	<= 72 hrs.	
<b>Routine Aerobic, Anaerobic, Fungus, and GC Cultures.</b>	1. Tissue, fluid or respiratory secretions in sterile container 2. Aspirate with safety syringe tip cap	Sterile container or Aspirate in syringe: <= 2 hrs. Ambient	1.  2.  3.
	3. ESwab Collection & Transport System with white cap & flocked swab & Amies liquid	ESwab: <= 24 hrs. Ambient	
<b>Urine Culture</b>	1. Fresh urine in sterile cup	<= 1 hr. Ambient <= 24 hrs. Refrigerated	1.  2.
	2. Grey top – BD Vacutainer Urine tube	<= 48 hrs. Ambient	
<b>MRSA Culture</b>	E-Swab (BBL Amies gel swab is acceptable but not preferred.)	<= 24 hrs. Ambient	
<b>MRSA PCR</b> (nose source only)	COPAN Sterile Transport Swab (red cap and red label, double-scored swabs with liquid Stuart's medium in sponge). (DO NOT BREAK OFF SWAB AT THE SCORED AREA.)	<= 24 hrs. Ambient <= 5 days Refrigerated	
<b>Vaginosis Panel, BD Affirm</b>	BD Affirm Ambient Temperature Transport Medium	<= 72 hrs. Ambient or Refrigerated	
<b>Gonorrhea/Chlamydia/Trichomonas Amplification</b>	1. GEN-PROBE APTIMA UNISEX SWAB (white cap with foil top) genital samples 2. Urine in Aptima collection tube (First 15-30 mLs voided urine – 2 mLs minimum) 3. Hologic Aptima Vaginal Self-Collect Swab	< 30 Days Ambient or Refrigerated	1.  4.  2.  3.
	4. Urine in a sterile cup (First 15-30 mLs voided urine – 2 mLs minimum)	<= 24 hrs. Refrigerated	
<b>Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Amplivue</b>	BD Universal Viral Transport Medium (UTM) (red cap with 3 ml red liquid and 2 cotton tipped swabs)	<= 5 days Refrigerated	
<b>Pertussis PCR</b>	Cepheid UTM Kit, with single flocked, nasopharyngeal (NP) swab	<= 72 hrs. Refrigerated	
<b>Respiratory PCR</b>		<= 4 hrs. Ambient	
<b>Flu PCR and RSV PCR</b>		<= 24 hrs. Ambient	
		<= 3 days Refrigerated	
		<= 7 days Refrigerated	













For information or questions, contact PVH or MCR Lab at 970.495.8757, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

For all other hours, contact PVH Lab at 970.495.8710 or MCR Lab at 970.624.1538.

**PLEASE POST FOR YOUR REFERENCE.**

# Microbiology Collection Containers

(Transport at room temperature unless otherwise indicated)

SPECIMEN/TEST	COLLECTION CONTAINERS	TIME LIMITS FOR LAB DELIVERY	COLLECTION CONTAINER PICTURES
<b>Rapid Strep Screen, Strep Screen Culture, Group A strep Screen Culture</b>	BBL Culture Swab Collection & Transport System with red cap, blue label & Stuart media in sponge (SWABS ARE NOT SCORED)	<=72 hrs. Ambient or Refrigerated	
<b>Group B Strep PCR (perinatal strep)</b>	ESwab Collection & Transport System with white cap & flocked Swab & Amies liquid  (BBL Amies gel swab is acceptable but not preferred.)	ESwab:  <= 24 hrs. Ambient  <= 5 days Refrigerated	
<b>Pinworm Prep</b>	Pinworm Collector with white cap vial & sticky paddle Include patient collection instructions with each vial.	<= 72 hrs. Ambient	
<b>Parasite Worm Exam</b>	1. Isolate worm and place into a sterile cup with a small amount of water.	Return to Laboratory within 8 hours Ambient or Refrigerated	1.  2. 
	2. Place worm in a pink cap vial (formalin). Remove scoop from cap and discard	Specimen is viable Ambient or Refrigerated for 2 months or until vial expiration date, whichever comes first.	
<b>Fecal Occult Blood (Diagnostic or 3 card series)</b>	Fresh stool applied to test card immediately after collection Stool must be applied to card within 30 minutes. Follow instructions provided with cards.	<= Card - 14 days Ambient	
<b>GI PCR with Supplemental Culture</b>  <b>Stool Culture</b> includes: Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, E. coli 0157, and ShigaToxins. Indicate any other organisms in comments.	Orange cap Cardinal C&S vial  Sterile containers can be used for collection if the specimen can be brought to a lab and transferred in less than 2 hours	<= 24 hrs. Ambient; <= 48 hrs. Refrigerated	 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Within 2 hrs of collection, add only enough stool to bring liquid to red line.</span>
<b>Ova &amp; Parasites</b>	Pink cap (Formalin) <u>AND</u> Grey cap (Zinc PVA) Para-Pak transport vials	Specimen is viable Ambient or Refrigerated for 2 months or until vial expiration date, whichever comes first.	 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Within 30 min of collection, add only enough stool to bring liquid to red line.</span>
<b>Giardia/ Cryptosporidium Antigen</b>	1. Pink cap (formalin) <u>OR</u>	Pink cap (formalin) specimen is viable Ambient for 2 months or until the vial's expiration, whichever comes first.	1.  2.  <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Within 30 min of collection, add only enough stool to bring liquid to red line.</span>
	Orange cap Cardinal C&S vial	Orange Cap (Cary Blair) <= 2 weeks Refrigerated	
<b>WBC Stool</b>	Orange cap Cardinal C&S vial	<= 24 hrs. Ambient; <= 48 hrs. Refrigerated	 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Within 60 min of collection, add only enough stool to bring liquid to red line.</span>
<b>Stool for C. diff PCR,</b>	Fresh stool in sterile cup	Refrigerate within 2 hrs.  <= 4 days Refrigerated or Frozen  *Transport on ice*	
<b>Rotavirus Antigen</b>	Fresh stool in sterile cup	<= 72 hrs. Refrigerated	
<b>Norovirus</b>	Fresh stool in sterile cup	Refrigerate immediately *Transport on ice*	

**PLEASE POST FOR YOUR REFERENCE.**

For information or questions, contact PVH or MCR Lab at 970.495.8700, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
For all other hours, contact PVH Lab at 970.495.8720 or MCR Lab at 970.624.1527.