

TEST CHANGE – SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

Notification Date: September 11th, 2024

Effective Date: September 11th, 2024

Test Name: Bacterial Culture, Body Fluids

Explanation: The laboratory has changed blood culture bottles for body fluids. The new bottles require the laboratory to process body fluids before placing them into bottles to ensure fastidious organism growth. All body fluids must be sent to the laboratory in a sterile container, not in a blood culture bottle.

The laboratory will inoculate these fluids into bottles once processed.

Test ID: LAB269

Current Container Type	New Container Type
Bactec Aerobic PLUS bottle for culture	Sterile screw top container



Recommendations: All Body Fluids (peritoneal, pleural, pericardial, synovial) must be submitted for culture in a sterile container, not a blood culture bottle.

Questions:

Please get in touch with Vanderbilt Medical Laboratories Customer Service at 615-875-5227 5-LABS) or 800-551-5227 or visit our website: [Home | Vanderbilt Medical Laboratories \(vumc.org\)](https://www.vumc.org)