

Clinical Laboratory Communication

Notification Date: June 07, 2019

Effective Date: July 8, 2019

Blood Culture Bottle – Changing from VersaTREK to BD Bactec

Explanation: Beginning July 8th, the current VersaTREK Redox Blood Culture Bottles will be changing to the BD Bactec Blood Culture Bottles. This conversion to the BD System allows for increased safety and efficiencies with the elimination of glass bottles and moving to plastic bottles. In addition, the BD Bactec bottles use the standard vacutainer hub and eliminate the need for specialized hubs.

Blood Culture Bottle Need to Know:

1. Ordering Blood Culture Testing

- No change in order codes will occur with this bottle change. You will continue to order a Blood Culture Routine in your Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system or Laboratory Information System (LIS) as you do today.

2. Bottles Available:

Three types of blood culture bottles are available: Aerobic, Anaerobic, and Peds Aerobic.

- Aerobic and Anaerobic bottles have an ideal fill volume of 8-10 mL; acceptable fill volume of 3-10mL
- Peds Aerobic bottle has an ideal fill volume of 1-3 mL; acceptable fill volume of 0.5-5mL



3. Recommended Collection Volumes:

Updated recommended blood culture volumes for Adults or Pediatric Patients >40 kg (88lb) AND Pediatric Patients are defined below.

Recommended Blood Culture Volume		Total Volume to be Drawn	Plus Aerobic /IF	Lytic/10 Anaerobic/IF
			Blood Volume	
Adult Collection or Pediatric Patients >40 kg (88lb)	Ideal Volume	20 mL	10 mL	10 mL
	Acceptable Volume	8-20 mL	4-10 mL	4-10 mL
	Difficult Collection	<7 mL	7 mL	

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Recommended Blood Culture Volume by Patient Weight	Weight Range		Peds Plus/IF	Plus Aerobic /IF	Lytic/10 Anaerobic/IF	Total Volume to be Drawn
	Pounds	Kilograms				
PEDIATRIC	<11 lbs	<5 kg	1 mL			1 mL
	11 – 22 lb	5-10 kg	2 mL			2 mL
	22.1 – 44 lb	10.1 – 20 kg	3 mL		3 mL	6 mL
	44.1 – 88 lb	20.1 – 40 kg		5 mL	5 mL	10 mL
	>88 lb	>40 kg		10 mL	10 mL	20 mL

4. Educational Resource: The following educational resource is available to order from Pathology Laboratory for non-UnityPoint locations. UnityPoint locations can order directly from the UPH Print Shop – Order PL 9107

Pathology Laboratory BD Bactec™ Quick Guide

Equipment Needed

Other items needed:
Preventions Swab for disinfection of area, appropriate sized syringe, appropriate gauge of butterfly needle, gauze, gloves, tourniquet, and appropriate bandaging.

Collection Instructions for Patient and Bottle Preparation

Find suitable site for collection. Disinfect the collection area using a Preventions Swab (usage instructions on back of pad).

Collection Instructions using Syringe

Before the actual collection, disinfect top of the culture bottles with a 70% isopropyl alcohol swab or Preventions Swab.

Recommended Blood Culture Volume	Total Volume to be Drawn	Blood Volume	
		Plus Aerobic /IF	Lytic/10 Anaerobic/IF
Adult Collection or Pediatric Patients >40 kg (88lb)	Ideal Volume: 20 mL Acceptable Volume: 8-20 mL Difficult Collection: <7 mL	10 mL 4-10 mL 7 mL	10 mL 4-10 mL

Collection Instructions using Vacutainer Winged Set / Needle

Using a butterfly needle and vacutainer hub, directly transfer the optimal amount of blood (8-10mL) into each bottle. Collect the grey labeled-blue cap (aerobic) bottle first.

Labeling Bottles

- Discard all materials in their appropriate locations.
- Properly label the culture bottles.
- Place labels vertically making sure to not cover up the barcode area or volume markings.
- Include location of collection, i.e. right arm, port, etc

Packaging of Samples to Send to Pathology Laboratory

Place bottles into a single biohazard bag and seal.

NOTE: Volume is very important in detection of bacteria. The more blood collected the better the chance of detecting the presence of bacteria.

REMINDER—do NOT incubate bottles. Leave at room temperature until courier pick up.

DISCLAIMER: Collection, transport, and stability are subject to change. Refer to the Laboratory Testing for latest collection and testing requirements. PLS107 2019.07.08

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