



Change in Blood Culture System and Collection Bottles

Effective Monday July 8th, the laboratories of UnityPoint Health – Des Moines will be changing from the VersaTREK Redox system with the implementation of the BD Bactec FX system. This new system will require blood collection using the BD Bactec aerobic and anaerobic bottles, which are specifically designed for the recovery of bacteria.

Important Information about the New Blood Culture System

Bottles Available:

Three (3) 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 and will be for pediatric use only.

BD Bactec **Aerobic** Bottle
(Blue Cap/Grey Label)



BD Bactec **Anaerobic** Bottle
(Purple Cap/Purple Label)



BD Bactec **Peds** Bottle
(Pink Cap/Pink Label)



Hello plastic bottles!

Recommended Blood Volumes:

Updated blood culture collection 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	10 mL	10 mL
	Acceptable Volume	4-10 mL	4-10 mL
	Difficult Collection	7 mL	

Welcome to *In the Loop*, the newsletter from UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Laboratories.

The purpose of this newsletter is to distribute valuable information to our service area, including new test availability, test updates regarding methodology, specimen collection, and normal values.

We may also include feature topics related to laboratory diagnostics and test utilization.

If you have suggestions for topics you would like to read about in the newsletter, please email Kimberly.VonAhsen@unitypoint.org

Recommended Blood Culture Volume by Patient Weight		Peds Plus/IF	Plus Aerobic /IF	Lytic/10 Anaerobic/IF	Total Volume to be Drawn	
Weight Range						
PEDIATRIC	Pounds	Kilograms	Blood Volume			
	<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	

Standard Vacutainer Hub:

New bottles allow for the use of a standard Vacutainer hub, no special collection hubs are required.

Bottle Exchange:

- For hospital based locations, old bottles will be brought to the Laboratory at 8:00am on 7/8 and new bottles distributed.
- For client locations, BD Bactec bottles will be provided with new supply requests starting Friday July 5th. Beginning Monday June 17th, requests for Blood Culture bottles will be filled in small quantities.

Ordering:

No change in order codes will occur with this bottle change. You will continue to order a Blood Culture testing as you do today.

Educational Resource: Full color poster detailing the new collection method and recommended collection volumes will be available through the UPH Print Shop by ordering CLAB 205 for UPH locations starting June 26th. For Pathology Clients, posters can be ordered through Pathology Laboratory.

Recommended Blood Culture Volume by Weight Range

Weight Range	Peds Plus/IF	Plus Aerobic /IF	Lytic/10 Anaerobic/IF	Total Volume to be Drawn
<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

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

Questions, please contact:

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