







 <b>One Dorset Pathology</b>		<b>Title: A - Z of Microbiology tests (M-P)</b>	
 Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust		Document No: B-MIC-D-67	
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Test	Specimen	Container	Required volume	Laboratory	Turnaround time	Additional information
Malaria detection	Blood	EDTA (purple top tube)	5 ml	RBH Haematology		<b>Urgent test – performed by Haematology</b>
Acute measles serology (IgM)	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Reference laboratory	7 days	For acute infection
Measles PCR	Buccal swab	Swab in Viral Transport Medium	N/A	Reference laboratory	7 days	<b>All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Medical Microbiologist</b>
Measles IgG	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Poole Virology	24hrs	For evidence of past infection or immunity
Meningococcal PCR	Blood	EDTA (purple top tube)	5 ml	Reference laboratory	5-7 days	<b>All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Medical Microbiologist</b>
	CSF	See entry under Cerebrospinal Fluid				
Mouth swab	Swab	Swab in Amies transport medium with charcoal.	N/A	RBH	96 hrs	Please state if fungal infection is suspected
MRSA screen	Routine screening	Swab in Amies transport medium with charcoal.	N/A	RBH	48 hrs	Samples >48 hrs old are not desirable but will be processed. Store in fridge overnight if required.
	Urgent PCR	GeneXpert swab available from the laboratory	N/A	RBH	4 hours	Will only be routinely performed from HDU & ITU and designated wards if discussed with Infection Control and/or a Consultant Microbiologist prior to taking the sample  <b>Nasal preparations, excessive blood or mucus may affect performance of this assay</b>
Acute mumps serology IgM For clinical cases of mumps	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Reference laboratory	7 days	Please state date of onset and contact history.
Mumps IgG	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Reference laboratory	7 days	For evidence of past infection or immunity
Mycobacteria/ AFB (Tuberculosis & Atypical/ non- tuberculous): Microscopy (Ziehl-Nielsen/ auramine), Isolation  Please state clearly on request form that Mycobacterial/ TB/ AFB investigation required.	Sputum	Sterile Universal (send 3 sputa for suspected pulmonary TB)		Poole Microbiology	Up to 8 weeks	<b>All suspected cases should be discussed with TB team</b>  Samples are monitored continuously and any flagging positive are communicated to clinicians as an urgent
	BAL/ gastric aspirates CSF/ fluids/ tissue	Sterile Universal				

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	Urine	Sterile universal (send <u>early morning urine on 3 consecutive days</u> )				result.  <b>Mycobacterial investigations are not performed on-call.</b>
	Blood/Bone marrow	Lithium Heparin bottles	4 x 5 ml	Reference laboratory	Up to 8 weeks	
Mycobacterium tuberculosis PCR (fast-track)/ Rifampicin probes (MDR suspected)	Respiratory specimens or deep / sterile specimens	Sterile universal		Reference laboratory	7 days	<b>All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Medical Microbiologist</b>
T-SPOT TB	Blood	2 x Lithium heparin		Reference laboratory	4 days	Samples to be in lab by 15:30 Mon-Fri. Check with laboratory for service availability around bank holidays.
Mycology MC&S (Systemic mycoses)	Tissue, fluids, systemic	Sterile Universal	N/A	RBH	Microscopy 24 hrs – culture up to 6 weeks	Please state clinical history and that <b>fungus culture</b> is required.
Mycology (Dermatophytes) Skin, nail & hair	Skin, nail and hair	Sterile Universal or Dermapak	N/A	RBH	Microscopy: 5 days Culture: 28 days	
Mycoplasma pneumoniae serology (IgM)	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Poole Virology	24-48 hrs	
Nasal swab	Swab	Swab in Amies transport medium with charcoal.	N/A	RBH	96 hrs	Please clearly state if nasal swab is for MC&S or MRSA
Norovirus PCR	Faeces	Sterile universal 30ml faecal pot	With the spatula provided transfer a cherry-sized portion of faeces, or equivalent volume of fluid	RBH	2-4 hours	<b>Arranged through Infection Control Team</b>
Pacemaker tips/ leads & other cardiac prostheses	Device	Sterile Universal	N/A	RBH	48hrs	<b>Should NOT be sent routinely. Only send where device infection is suspected.</b>
Parvovirus serology	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Poole Virology	7-10 days	<b>Please state date of onset and if patient is pregnant.</b>
Parvovirus PCR	Blood (serum)/ amniotic fluid	<b>Discuss request with Consultant Medical Microbiologist</b>				
Pneumococcal urinary antigen  This test is only indicated in severe community-acquired pneumonia (CAP).  Severe CAP has a CURB-65 score of 3 or more.	Urine	Sterile Universal	10-20 ml		Same day	<b>Tests from AAU, wards 2 &amp; 3, ITU, HDU and wards 10 &amp; 11 will be performed if requested.</b>  <b>Requests from other wards/ departments require prior discussion with a Consultant Medical</b>

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						Microbiologist.
<i>Pneumocystis jiroveci</i> (PCP) immunofluorescence	Lower respiratory secretions (induced sputum/ BAL)	Sterile Universal		Reference laboratory	7 days	All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Medical Microbiologist
Polyomaviruses (BK/ JC virus) PCR	Urine (BK) CSF (JC)	Sterile Universal		Reference laboratory	7 days	
	EDTA blood (BK)	EDTA (purple top tube)				