| One Dorset Pathology | Title: A - Z of Microbiology tests (A-D) | | |
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| Test | Specimen | Container | Required volume | Laboratory | Turnaround time | Additional information |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Adenovirus | Faeces – children under 5 years | Sterile universal container | 1ml | RBH | 1 day | |
| | Faeces - immune- compromised | Sterile Universal | Minimum 200µl | Reference laboratory | 7 days | All requests for PCR MUST be discussed with a Consultant |
| | Blood | EDTA blood (purple top) | 1-5ml | | | Microbiologist |
| | Swabs (e.g. eye) | Swab in Viral Transport Medium | N/A | | | |
| Amoebic serology (Amoebic IFAT) | Blood (serum) | Clotted blood (red-top) | 5-10ml | Reference laboratory | 14 days | All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Microbiologist |
| Antenatal serology | Blood (serum) | Clotted blood (red-top) | 5-10ml | RBH | 1-3 days | |
| Anthrax (isolation/ PCR) | Tissue/ lesion fluid | Sterile Universal | | Reference laboratory | 7 days | All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Microbiologist |
| Antibiotic Assays | SEE TRUST INTR | ANET – Antir | nicrobial Gui | dance | | |
| Aspirates (eg joint) | Aspirate/ fluid | Sterile Universal | | RBH | 4-7 days for MC&S | Please specify if mycobacterial investigations needed. |
| | | | | | | For urgent samples, include the name of requesting Doctor & bleep/contact number on request form |
| Arboviral serology and PCR (e.g Chikungunya virus, Dengue fever, Yellow fever, West Nile virus, Zika virus) • | Blood (serum) | Clotted blood (red-top) | 5-10ml | Reference laboratory | 7-14 days | A full travel history and immunisation details is essential for test interpretation. All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Microbiologist |
| Beta-glucan antigen test Galactomannan, | Blood (serum) | Clotted blood (red-top) | 5-10ml | Reference laboratory | 4 days | |
| Blood cultures If endocarditis is clinically | In Adult : Blood | Blood culture bottles | 8-10 ml 4 ml | RBH | 5 days for generic protocol | Take before antimicrobials are given if possible. |
| suspected please state in clinical details If suspected line infection need simultaneously | In children: Blood | Blood culture bottles | | | unless clinical details state endocarditis 21 day protocol | |

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| line and lumen cultures and clearly label | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Bordetella PCR | Pernasal swab or NPA (child) | Swab or Universal if NPA | N/A | Reference laboratory | 6 days | |
| Bordetella serology- ?recent infection [not for assessment of immunity] | Blood (serum) | Clotted blood (red-top) | 5-10ml | Reference laboratory | 14 days | For individuals with chronic cough for >2 weeks. |
| Broncho-alveolar lavage (BAL) or washings | BAL/ washings | Sterile Universal | | RBH PCP to Reference laboratory | 4 days for standard MC&S (may be extended to 7 days if extended incubation for fungi is clinically indicated) | Please specify if TB, fungal, viral or other test required (eg PCP) |
| Cervical swab (endocervical) for gonococci, PID. See below for Chlamydia. | Swab | Swab in Amies transport medium with charcoal | N/A | RBH | 4 days | See below for Chlamydia. |
| Chickenpox | See under Varicella | | | | | |
| Chlamydia trachomatis NAATS/ PCR test | Urine | Dedicated collection device | 10-20 ml | Dorset County Hospital | 2 days upon receipt at DCH | First catch urine |
| | Female endocervical/ female high vaginal / urethral / intra-abdominal (PID) swabs | | | | | |
| | Conjunctival / Throat swabs | | | | | |
| Clostridium difficile toxin testing | Faeces | Universal 30 ml faecal pot | With the spatula provided transfer a cherry-sized portion of faeces or equivalent volume of fluid | RBH | 30hrs | |
| CMV serology | Blood | | | | | |
| CMV PCR (Quantitative assay) Corneal scrape | Blood | EDTA blood | 1-5 ml (minimu m 200µl/ assay) | Reference laboratory RBH | 8 days | Discuss interpretation of results a Consultant Microbiologist. |

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| | Tissues/fluids/ resp samples | Sterile Universal | N/A | | Up to 14 days | Please state clearly if fungal/ mycobacterial or viral investigations required. |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| Coxiella burnetii serology (Q fever) | Blood (serum) | Clotted blood (red-top) | 5-10ml | Reference laboratory | 7-14 days | Discuss with Consultant Microbiologist if suspected. |
| Cryptococcal antigen | Blood (serum) | Clotted blood (red-top) | 5-10ml (blood) | Reference laboratory | 48 hrs upon receipt at reference laboratory (TBC) | |
| Dengue serology | Refer to Arboviral serology | | | | | |
| Diphtheria isolation | Swab | Swab in Amies transport medium with charcoal | N/A | RBH | 2-3 days | Discuss with Consultant Microbiologist if suspected. |