

 One Dorset Pathology	Title: A - Z of Microbiology tests (Q-T)	
 Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Document No: U-MIC-P-153	
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Department: Microbiology	Site: Bournemouth	

Test	Specimen	Container	Required volume	Laboratory	Turnaround time	Additional information
Rabies investigations	If rabies is suspected clinically, discuss URGENTLY with a Consultant Medical Microbiologist					
Respiratory virus PCR	Nasopharyngeal swab (NPS)	NPS (available from laboratory or via Clinical Site outside of laboratory working hours)	N/A	RBH	Same day (if received within adequate time during working day)	
	Molecular multiplex PCR Film Array respiratory screen: (Results available within 2 hours of receipt of sample) - Adenovirus - Coronavirus 229E - Coronavirus HKU1 - Coronavirus NL63 - Coronavirus OC43 - SARS-CoV-2 (not included in laboratories accredited scope of practice) - Human Metapneumovirus - Influenza A - Influenza A subtype H1, - Influenza A subtype H3 - Influenza A subtype 2009 H1 - Influenza B, Parainfluenza Virus 1 - Parainfluenza Virus 2 - Parainfluenza Virus 3 - Parainfluenza Virus 4 - Rhinovirus/Enterovirus - Respiratory Syncytial Virus <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> <i>Chlamydomphila pneumoniae</i> <i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>.					
Rickettsial serology- Typhus or Spotted Fever	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Reference laboratory	7-14 days	All requests MUST be discussed with Consultant Medical Microbiologist Provide a full travel history.
RSV – available as part of influenza screen						
Rubella serology (acute)	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	RBH	24-48 hrs	Please state if patient is pregnant.
Rubella serology (immunity)	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	RBH	24-48 hrs	
Schistosomiasis microscopy	Faeces	Sterile Universal		RBH	24-48 hrs	
	Urine (3 consecutive terminal urine samples collected at midday)	Sterile Universal				
Schistosomal serology	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Reference laboratory	14 days	Send at least 6 weeks post-exposure.
Seminal fluid for MC&S	Seminal fluid	Sterile Universal		RBH	3 days	
Sputum/ ETA/ BAL/ NBL	Respiratory secretions	Sterile Universal	5-10 ml	RBH	4 days turn around time may be extended to 7 days if extended incubation for fungi is	Please refer to Mycobacteria for TB investigation. Specimens are rejected of >48 hrs old as sub optimal for the isolation of organisms.

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					clinically indicated	
Swabs for MC&S (skin/ wound etc)	Swab	Swab in Amies transport medium with charcoal.	N/A	RBH	3 days	If MRSA is also required, please indicate on request form
Syphilis serology	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	RBH	1-3 days	
	CSF (VDRL, TPPA)	Sterile Universal	1-2 ml	Reference laboratory	8 days	
TB investigations	See under Mycobacteria					
Teicoplanin levels	See under Antibiotic Assays					
Tetanus toxin serology	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Reference	7-14 days	Collect before antitoxin given. Discuss with microbiology if suspected.
Tissue/ Biopsy for MC&S	See under Fluids					
Thread worms	Place sellotape over perianal region	Transfer to clean microscope slide	N/A	RBH	24 hrs	Best taken early morning
Throat swabs	Swab in Amies transport medium with charcoal.	N/A	N/A	RBH	4 days May be extended if culture for Fusobacteria/ Arcanobacterium is indicated	
Toxocara serology	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	Reference laboratory	14 days	
Toxoplasma serology (past exposure)	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	RBH	2 days	Please state if patient is pregnant.
Toxoplasma serology (acute/ current/ recent infection)	Blood (serum)	Clotted Blood (red top tube)	5-10 ml	RBH	2 days	Please state date of onset/ exposure. Please state if patient is pregnant.
Toxoplasma PCR	Requires prior discussion with a Consultant Medical Microbiologist					