

Swab and Media Shortages

Effective Date: October 1, 2020

Laboratory Bulletin

Beaumont Laboratory continues to face critical supply chain shortages of swabs (e.g. white ESwabs) and media used for routine bacterial cultures. To circumvent the white ESwab shortage, Beaumont Laboratory will be providing white and red BBL™ CultureSwabs™ as an alternative for specimen collection. A specimen collection guide for the most common test orders is listed below. To prevent media shortages, alternative vendors and methods have been utilized by Beaumont Laboratory to keep testing in-house for a quicker turnaround time. However, some providers may experience delays in test results due to intermittent media shortages.

If you have questions, please contact please contact your Beaumont Laboratory Customer Service Department:

- Farmington Hills, Grosse Pointe, Royal Oak and Troy: 800-551-0488 or 248-551-1155, Option 5
- Dearborn, Taylor, Trenton and Wayne: 800-245-3725, Option 1

Laboratory Test Directory: <http://beaumontlaboratory.com/test-lab-directory>.

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Specimen Collection Guide

| Test | Specimen Type | Collection Device | Alternative Collection Device |
|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| Bordetella pertussis by Nucleic Acid Amplification | Nasopharyngeal | Green/Blue ESwab (FH, GP, RO, TY) UVT (DB, TR, TN, WA) | None |
| Culture, Anaerobic | Multiple | Aspirated fluid or tissue submitted in a syringe or sterile container | White ESwab (Not Recommended) |
| Culture, Respiratory | Nose/Oral | White ESwab | White BBL CultureSwab |
| Culture, Respiratory | Nasopharyngeal/Sinus | Green ESwab or Blue ESwab | None |
| Culture, Wound | Any site using a swab | White ESwab | White BBL CultureSwab |
| Culture, Staph. Aureus | Nasal | White ESwab | White BBL CultureSwab |
| MRSA Culture | Nasal | White ESwab | White BBL CultureSwab |
| Staph Screen, NAA | Nasal | Red BBL CultureSwab | None |
| Strep Screen, Group A | Throat | Rapid: White ESwab (FH, GP, RO, TY) Red BBL CultureSwab (DB, TR, TN, WA) Culture: White ESwab (All sites) | Red BBL CultureSwab or Green/Blue ESwab paired with polyester swab |
| Strep Screen, Group B | Vaginal/Rectal | White ESwab | White BBL CultureSwab |

