

## Bone Marrow Culture Ordering and Collection

**Effective Date: 07/30/2025**

The Corewell Health East Reference Laboratory is implementing EPIC ordering improvements to clarify appropriate ordering and collection for bone marrow specimens sent for culture.

For bacterial culture, a new order (BONE MARROW CULTURE [LAB1231904]) will replace ordering peripheral blood cultures with a Specimen Type and Specimen Source of “Bone Marrow”. The appropriate collection device is the pediatric blood culture bottle (yellow top). Bone marrow specimens should be inoculated directly into the blood culture bottle.

If infection with fungi or acid-fast bacilli is suspected, orders for Fungal Culture [LAB240] and/or AFB Culture and Smear [LAB8770] should be placed with the Specimen Type and Specimen Source of “Bone Marrow”. The appropriate collection device for these orders is a lithium heparin (green top) vacutainer tube.



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

- Corewell Health Reference Lab Customer Service: 800-551-0488 or 248-551-1155, Option 5

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**Submitted by: Dr. rer. nat. Ben von Bredow, Technical Director, Microbiology**