

Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerobic culture and sensitivity will be performed on the anaerobic samples. A separate aerobic sample is not required. • Collect samples under aseptic conditions; avoid contamination with indigenous anaerobic flora from skin and mucous membranes • Collection with a swab is not recommended for isolation of anaerobes and should be surgically obtained for optimal results when an aspirate is not feasible
Acceptable samples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abscess material, Needle aspirates • Tissue, Deep wounds – deep collection (greater than 1 cm deep) • Urine – suprapubic aspirate
Unacceptable samples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superficial swabs • Samples collected from or via sites containing normal flora: e.g., mouth, throat, sputum, bowel, urethra, vagina, cervix, rectum, perianal area, voided or catheterized urine
Collection container(s)	<p>Anaerobic Transport Media (PRAS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not use if the media is lavender – this indicates anaerobic conditions have been compromised • Do not use past expiry date or if packaging is no longer intact • Copan CLASSIQSwabs™ Dry Swab is to be used when submitting swab specimens for testing. • Fluid and tissue may also be submitted in a sterile screw-capped container
Syringe collection instructions for pus and fluid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disinfect rubber septum with alcohol • Using syringe, aspirate pus or fluid aseptically. Expel air from syringe • Puncture rubber septum with needle and inject sample into anaerobic transport media • Ensure the syringe needle is disposed of appropriately
Collection instructions for tissue and swabs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect tissue or sample with sterile swab if necessary • Remove screw cap from the anaerobic transport media and insert tissue or swab deeply into bottom of medium • Break off swab stick, if swab used, at neck of tube • Re-cap tube
Labeling the sample	<p>Label sample container(s) with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient's Full first and last name AND • Personal Health Number (PHN) or other unique identifier • Sample site/source • Date and time the specimen was collected
Sample transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not refrigerate samples after collection • Never transport syringes with needles to the laboratory • Fluid samples(exception CSF) for anaerobic culture are considered priority samples and must be received in the laboratory within 2 hours of collection • CSF samples are considered STAT and must be transported to the laboratory immediately • Organisms will remain viable in the anaerobic transport media for up to 48 hours

Samples that are not labelled correctly and do not have a completed requisition will not be tested.

Questions? Call the Alberta Precision Laboratories at 403-770-3600