

# UCSF Microbiology Specimen Collection Guide

## For UCSF Operating Rooms

Clinical Laboratories  
Department of Laboratory Medicine

### CSF

- CSF bacterial culture
- CSF fungal culture for *Coccidioides*
- AFB culture (approval needed)
- Molecular tests



**Sterile Black Top Tube**

### TISSUE

- Bacterial culture, normally sterile site



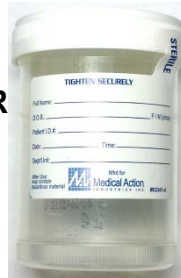
**Anaerobic Transport Medium**

- Place tissue on top of soft agar medium
- Keep small piece moist with 2-3 drops sterile saline

- Fungal culture
- AFB culture
- Molecular tests



OR



**Sterile Container**

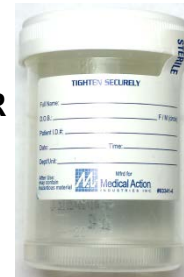
- If large
- Keep moist with 2-3 drops of sterile saline

### FLUID

- Bacterial culture, normally sterile site
- Fungal culture
- AFB culture
- Molecular tests



OR



**Sterile Container**

- If large
- Pleural, peritoneal, synovial, etc.
- 20 ml or more preferred

### SWABS

**AVOID SWABS IF POSSIBLE!**

- Bacterial culture, normally sterile site
- Molecular tests



**Amies Charcoal Transport Medium**



**Universal Transport Medium**

- Virus testing for sites other than Nasopharynx

#### Bacterial culture orders:

- ☐ Nonsterile site (mucosal tissues - GI, sinus, abscess, surgical drainage)
- ☐ Sterile site (normally sterile tissues and fluids)

- **Label sample, confirm match with requisition**
- **Indicate source on tube and requisition**
- **Send immediately to laboratory**

**Swabs not accepted for AFB or Fungal cultures**