

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine 455 Toll Gate Road, Warwick, Rhode Island

Body Fluid Specimen Collection Guide: (excluding CSF)

Test	Container	Comments
BF Cell Count (WBC, RBC) and Diff	Lavender K2EDTA tube, or Dark Green Sodium Heparin tube Add minimum 1 mL sample to tube	 Add fluid immediately upon collection Mix by inverting tube slowly 8 times to prevent clotting
BF Crystals	Dark Green Sodium Heparin tube Add minimum 1 mL sample to tube	 Add fluid immediately upon collection Mix by inverting tube slowly 8 times to prevent clotting
Chemistry tests	Plain Red top tube Add minimum 5 mL sample to tube	Use sterile container for larger volumes
Fluid pH	Heparinized syringe, Minimum 0.5 mL in syringe, no air, or Dark Green Sodium Heparin Minimum 1 mL sample to tube	 Collect anaerobically Keep on ice until testing is performed Must be analyzed within 1 hour
Fluid Culture AFB Culture Fungal Culture	or Plain Red top tube Add minimum 1-2 mL	Cultures are performed at Women and Infants Microbiology Lab ext. 41191
Cytology	Add minimum of 10 mL sample to container. (>50 mL preferred)	 Accompany specimen with completed Cytology Requisition Form Label specimen container with 2 patient identifiers and specimen source Deliver to Kent Main Lab immediately or refrigerate if transport is delayed