

Policy #:	610 (PLH-610-03)	Effective Date:	9/30/2004	Reviewed Date:	2/4/2011
Subject:	MICROBIOLOGY REPORTS AND AVERAGE TURNAROUND TIMES				
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MICROBIOLOGY REPORTS AND AVERAGE TURNAROUND TIMES

<u>Specimen</u>	<u>Usual Reporting Time</u>
Antigen Tests	- Reported 15-60 minutes varies with test requested.
Blood Culture	- Gram stain results are called as Critical Values as soon as positive culture is detected. Because cultures are monitored continuously at 10 minute intervals for 5 days, preliminary "NO GROWTH" reports are not issued. - No growth in 5 days.
Bordetella PCR and Culture	- 1-3 days upon receipt for PCR. 3-4 weeks for culture; unless positive. Positive results are called with verbal notifications.
CSF, sterile body fluids abscess	- Physician/Nurse called when bacteria is detected on smear or culture. <u>All ED CSF gram stain</u> results are called to physician/nurse. (average Gram stain TAT 1-2 hours from collection time.) - Preliminary report of culture in 18-24 hours - No growth report in 72 hours for CSF. - Isolation / identification of anaerobes 4-5 days. - No growth report in 5 days for other sterile body fluids.

Genital and GC Cultures	-	Gram stains only performed upon request. Performed and reported same day. Preliminary report in 18-24 hours and as any pertinent information is available thereafter. Final report in 36-48 hours. GC culture final result at 54-60 hours.
Gram Stain (Stat Orders)	-	Average turnaround time (1) hour.
Legionella cultures	-	Referred to reference laboratory. Final report of no legionella usually 7-14 days
Legionella DFA	-	Perform once a week. Reported Fri (pm)
Miscellaneous wounds or sites other than blood, CSF, respiratory, stool or urine	-	Gram stain performed and reported same day. Preliminary report in 18-24 hours and as any pertinent information is available thereafter. Final report in 54-72 hours.
MRSA Screens	-	Preliminary report in 18-24 hours. Final report in 36-48 hours. Reported as No MRSA Isolated for negatives or MRSA for positives. Sensitivity will <u>not</u> be performed. Report will be faxed to the floor, client, or affiliate.
Mycobacteria cultures and smears	-	AFB smear reported within 24 hours.
	-	No growth after 6 weeks.
	-	Growth reported as detected M.tuberculosis; M.avium; M.kansasii; M.gordonae by DNA probe weekly.
Mycology cultures	-	Preliminary as growth is detected and as isolate is identified.
	-	Final reports in 4 weeks; blood and tissue (6 weeks) Vaginal cultures; 2 weeks.
Mycoplasma Culture	-	Reference laboratory (5 days)
Parasitology	-	Reported daily.
<u>Respiratory cultures</u>		
Throat cultures	-	Preliminary report in 18-24 hours. Clinically significant isolates other than normal respiratory flora reported in 24-72 hours. Final report of normal flora reported in 36-48 hrs.

Sputum, tracheal aspirates, bronchial washings, bronchial lavage, bronchial brushes	-	Preliminary report in 18-24 hours. Isolates inconsistent with normal flora reported as preliminary results as data obtained.
	-	Final report of pathogens and normal flora reported in 36-72 hours.
Stool Culture	-	Preliminary report in 18-24 hours. Critical value called if Salmonella, E. coli 0157, Shigella, or Campylobacter is isolated (3-4 days). No Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter or E. coli 0157 after 3-4 days. Vancomycin resistant Enterococcus faxed to nurse/physician.
Urine Culture	-	18-24 hour preliminary reports
	-	Final report-No Growth in 36 hours.
	-	24-48 hours for identification and susceptibility tests on cultures with colony counts >10 ⁴ CfU/ml. <10 ⁴ CfU/ml will not have susceptibility reports unless requested.
Virus Culture/ DFA HSV VZV CMV Respiratory Viruses RSV Para 1, 2, 3 Adeno Inf A & B	-	Preliminary report in 24 hours, Final report in 48 hours
		*Note: STAT Antigen test available for Flu A&B and RSV-See Antigen Test
VRE Screens	-	Preliminary report in 18-24 hours. Final report of No VRE Isolated in 36-96 hours. Final report of VRE in 72-96 hours. Results faxed to the floor and infection prevention/control for inpatients and client or affiliate for Outreach. Sensitivity will not be performed.
Wet Preparation	-	Reported within 30 minutes from receipt in Microbiology.