Specimen Type	Usual Tests Ordered	Comments
ABSCESS		**Tissue or fluid is always superior to a swab specimen. Source/site must be clearly documented on specimen, computer, or requisition.**
Open	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab	Sampling of the surface area can introduce colonizing bacteria not involved in the infectious process.
Closed	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	Submit aspirate for aerobic and anaerobic culture. If swabs are used, collect both routine and anaerobic culture swabs.
BITE WOUND	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab	Do not culture animal bite wounds ≤12 h old (agents are usually not recovered) unless they are on the face or hand or unless signs of infection are present.
BLOOD CULTURE	**CXBLD** Blood Culture	Acute sepsis: 2-3 sets from separate sites, all within 10 min. Endocarditis, acute: 3 sets from 3 separate sites, over 1-2 h Endocarditis, subacute: 3 sets from 3 separate sites, taken ≥15 min apart; if negative @ 24 h., obtain 3 more sets. Fever of unknown origin: 2-3 sets from separate sites ≥1 h apart; if negative at 24 h., obtain 2-3 more sets. **Cultures drawn through indwelling intravascular devices are discouraged, due to the higher risk for contamination by colonizing organisms. Peripheral venipuncture set must accompany any line-drawn set, and site of collection indicated on bottles.**
BLOOD CULTURE, FUNGUS	**CXFNB** Culture, Fungal, Blood	Draw 2 Isolator tubes from separate venipunctures. Order "***Culture, Fungal – Blood***" x 2
BLOOD CULTURE, AFB	**CAFBB** Mycobacterial Culture, Blood	Draw 2 10 ml Green top tubes from separate venipunctures. Order "***Culture, Mycobacterial – Blood***" x 2

BONE MARROW	**CXFLD** Culture, Fluid (except CSF) **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain **CAFBR** Mycobacterial Culture	Additional Isolator or Heparin tubes must be drawn if AFB and Fungal cultures are required. Isolator tubes are available in 10 ml or 1.5 ml volumes.
BURN	**CXTIS** Culture, Tissue with Gram Stain	A 3-to-4-mm punch biopsy is optimum when cultures are ordered. Process for aerobic culture only. Surface cultures of burns may be misleading.
CATHETER (IV)	**CXCAT** Culture, Catheter/Device	
CATHETER (FOLEY)	**Not Acceptable for Culture**	
CELLULITIS	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab	
CSF	**CXCSF** Culture, CSF with Gram Stain **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli **HSVC** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), CSF Molecular Detection, PCR **EVPCR** Enterovirus, Molecular Detection, PCR **CXVRN** Viral Culture, Non-Respiratory **WNVPCR** West Nile Virus, Molecular Detection, PCR **CMVPR** Cytomegalovirus, Molecular Detection, PCR	
DECUBITUS ULCER	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab	A decubitus swab provides little clinical information; this collection method is strongly discouraged. A tissue biopsy sample or a needle aspirate is the specimen of choice. This source is unacceptable for anaerobic culture
EAR	**CXEAR** Culture, Ear **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic (Inner Ear Fluid specimens only)	
EYE		
Conjunctiva- (Conjuctivitis	**CXEYE** Culture, Eye (Ocular)	It is recommended that swabs for culture be taken prior to anesthetic application, whereas corneal scrapings can be obtained afterward. Anesthetics may be inhibitory to some etiologic agents.

Corneal scrapings (Keratitis)	**CXEYE** Culture, Eye (Ocular) **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli	Obtain Media from Microbiology prior to collection procedure.
Vitreous or Aqueous Fluid Aspirates (Endophthal-mitis)	**CXFLD** Culture, Fluid (except CSF) **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli	Obtain Media from Microbiology prior to collection procedure
FECES		
Routine Bacterial Enteric Pathogens	**CXSTO** Culture, Stool, Bacterial Enteric Pathogens **CXVIB** Culture, ***Vibrio*** – when clinically indicated **CXYER** Culture, ***Yersinia*** - when clinically indicated	This panel includes *Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, Enterohemorrhagic E. coli* (O157 and other serotypes), and *Aeromonas/ Plesiomonas* spp. Separate culture for *Yersinia* and *Vibrio spp.* available upon request. Not performed on patients whose length of stay is >3 days & admitting diagnosis was not gastroenteritis. Tests for *C. difficile* should be considered in these cases.
Clostridium difficile	**CDIFF** ***Clostridium difficile*** Toxin Gene and NAP1/027 Strain Detection	Patients should be passing≥5 liquid or soft stools per 24 h, without any laxative within past 48 hrs. Testing of formed or hard stool is not performed. Test not performed if history of negative assay within past 10 days, or positive within past 30 days.
Leukocytes	**SWBC** Fecal Leukocytes (Stool for WBC's)	Test performed in Hematology lab.
Rectal swab	**CXSTO** Culture, Stool, Bacterial Enteric Pathogens (PEDIATRIC patients only, **when stool sample cannot be obtained**) **MCTGC** ***Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae,*** Miscellaneous Sites, by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR **EVPCR** Enterovirus, Molecular Detection, PCR **VRE** VanA Detection (VRE) by PCR	

Parasitology	**GIARD** Ova & Parasite: ***Giardia*** Antigen and ***Cryptosporidium*** Antigen **CONWP** Ova & Parasite, Comprehensive: Comprehensive Ova & Parasite examination may be performed at the request of the physician on specimen from patients who have the following risk factors: • HIV Infection/ Immunosuppression for any reason • Residence in or recent immigration from a developing country • Travel to a country where parasitic pathogens are endemic • Persistence of symptoms, undiagnosed diarrhea The presence of any of the above risk factors must be communicated to the laboratory along with the telephone request for a comprehensive examination. The laboratory will hold all specimens for two weeks to allow additional testing to be requested if clinically indicated.	Not performed on patients whose length of stay is >3 days & admitting diagnosis was not gastroenteritis. Tests for *C. difficile* should be considered in these cases.
FISTULA	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	
FLUIDS		
abdominal, amniotic, ascites, bile, joint, paracentesis, pericardial, peritoneal, pleural, synovial, thoracentesis	**CXFLD** Culture, Fluid (except CSF) **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli	<u>Always submit as much fluid as possible; never submit swab dipped in fluid.</u> Swab specimens submitted with no volume of fluid will be processed as Wound Culture.
GANGRENEOUS TISSUE	**CXTIS** Culture, Tissue with Gram Stain **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	
GASTRIC: wash or lavage	**Unable to perform testing on this specimen source.**	**Unable to perform testing on this specimen source.**

GENITAL		
Female		
Amniotic Fluid	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	If Fluid submitted (not swab), order **CXFLD Culture, Fluid (except CSF)** instead of **CXGEN**.
Bartholin	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	
Cervical	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CGAMP** ***Chlamydia trachomatis*** and ***Neisseria gonorrhoeae*** by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR	
Cul-de-Sac	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	
Endometrial	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	
IUD	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	
Urethral	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CGAMP** ***Chlamydia trachomatis*** and ***Neisseria gonorrhoeae*** by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR	
Products of Conception	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic	If Tissue submitted (Fetal tissue, placenta, membranes, lochia), order **CXTIS Culture, Tissue with Gram Stain** instead of **CXGEN**.
Vaginal	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CGAMP** ***Chlamydia trachomatis*** and ***Neisseria gonorrhoeae*** by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR **TVRNA** *Trichomonas vaginalis*, Molecular Detection, PCR - Female	
Female or Male		
Lesion	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR **VZVPR** Varicella-Zoster Virus, Molecular Detection, PCR	

Male		
Prostate	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital	
Urethral	**CXGEN** Culture, Genital **CGAMP** ***Chlamydia trachomatis*** and ***Neisseria gonorrhoeae*** by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR **MTRNA** *Trichomonas vaginalis*, Molecular Detection, PCR - Male	
HAIR **Dermatophytosis**	**CXFNS** Culture, Fungal, Skin, Hair, Nails with Fungal Stain	Collect scalp scales, if present, along with scrapings of active borders of lesions.
NAIL **Dermatophytosis**	**CXFNS** Culture, Fungal, Skin, Hair, Nails with Fungal Stain	
PILONIDAL CYST	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab	
RESPIRATORY		
Lower		
Broncho-Alveolar lavage, Bronchial brush or wash, Tracheal aspirate	**CXRES** Culture, Respiratory with Gram Stain **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR **CMVPR** Cytomegalovirus, Molecular Detection, PCR **CXVRR** Viral Culture, Respiratory	For quantitative analysis of brushings, place brush in 1.0 ml of sterile, non-bacteriostatic saline. Fungal recovery is primarily for *Cryptococcus* spp. and some filamentous fungi; other yeasts rarely cause lower respiratory tract infection.
Sputum, expectorated or induced	**CXRES** Culture, Respiratory with Gram Stain **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli	Quality of all expectorated and induced sputums will be assessed by review of Gram stain. The best specimen should have ≤ 10 squamous cells per 100x field.
Upper		
Oral, Lesion	**Viral Studies (specify):** **HSVPR** Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR **VZVPR** Varicella-Zoster Virus, Molecular Detection, PCR	**For R/O yeast (*Candida*, thrush):** **CXRES** Culture, Respiratory with Gram Stain (DO NOT order Fungus Culture) – state "R/O Yeast" on requisition and specimen
Nasal	**CXNAS** Culture, Nasal, R/O MRSA **MRSAM** MRSA Detection by PCR	Anterior nares cultures is reserved for detecting staphylococcal and streptococcal carriers only. For MRSA PCR testing, both right and left

		nares are sampled using the same swab. **Nasal and nasopharyngeal specimens should not be used in an attempt to recover the etiological agent of a sinus infection.**
Nasopharynx	**FLURS** ***Influenza*** A/B/ RSV, Molecular Detection, PCR **COV2** SARS-Coronavirus-2, Molecular Detection, PCR **CXVRR** Viral Culture, Respiratory **BORDP** ***B. Pertussis and B. Parapertussis***, PCR **BORPR** ***Bordetella pertussis*** and ***Bordetella parapertussis***, Molecular Detection, PCR – *for non-NP respiratory samples only*	
Throat	**MYCOP** ***Mycoplasma pneumoniae*** **by NAA** **GASM** Strep pyogenes (Group A) by NAA **MCTGC** ***Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae,*** Miscellaneous Sites, by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **MCRNA** ***Chlamydia trachomatis***, Miscellaneous Sites, by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **MGRNA** ***Neisseria gonorrhoeae***, Miscellaneous Sites, by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **CXVRR** Viral Culture, Respiratory (r/o Enterovirus)	
SKIN		
Dermatophytosis	**CXFNS** Culture, Fungal, Skin, Hair, Nails with Fungal Stain	
Tissue	**CXTIS** Culture, Tissue with Gram Stain **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic **CXFUN** Culture, Fungal, Other Source with Fungal Stain (deep tissue; surgical) **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli	Tissue should measure $\leq$ 3 cm. in diameter. ***Never submit a swab that has simply been rubbed over the surface.*** Swab specimens submitted from surgical sites will be processed as Wound Culture.
URINE	**CXURN** Culture, Urine **CGAMP** ***Chlamydia trachomatis*** and ***Neisseria gonorrhoeae*** by Nucleic Acid Amplification (GEN-PROBE) **CXAFB** Culture, Acid Fast Bacilli (patients with suspected systemic TB) **SPA** ***Strep pneumoniae***, Rapid Antigen **LEG** ***Legionella***, Rapid Antigen	**Always indicate collection method when urine is obtained via catheter:** **Straight Catheter** If preparation is inadequate, the procedure may introduce urethral flora into the bladder and increase the risk of iatrogenic infection. **Indwelling Catheter** Culture should not be collected from indwelling catheter which has been in place >24 hrs. Culture when new catheter is placed.
WOUND	**CXWND** Culture, Wound with Gram Stain, Swab **CXANA** Culture, Anaerobic (SURGICAL/DEEP SPECIMENS ONLY)	