



Public Health
Laboratory

SPECIMEN COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE

BACTERIOLOGY

Emerging Disease/Microbiology Section

| Test | Test to be Performed | CPT | Accepted specimens | Transport method/ Temperature | Reference Range | Comments | Turn around time |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|--|---|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Salmonella/Shigella Screen | Salmonella/ Shigella Culture (Stool) | 87045 | Stool; Urine | Carey-Blair. Refrigerated; transport within 72 hours. | No Salmonella/ Shigella found | Specimens older than 72 hours may be unacceptable | 4 days |
| E.coli O157:H7 | STEC Culture (Stool) | 87046 | Stool | Carey-Blair. Refrigerated; transport within 72 hours | No E.coli O157:H7 found | Specimens older than 72 hours may be unacceptable | 4 days |
| Miscellaneous Culture | Miscellaneous Culture | 87070 | Various: Swab or fluid in sterile container. | Contact lab for appropriate specimens and transport. Transport within 24 hours of collection. | No pathogens found | Blood: Isolator tube CSF at Room temperature. Swab: Genital, throat, wounds, eyes, ear, etc. | Varies by culture |

Specimens should be collected in the acute phase of infection. Transport to the laboratory within 24 hours after collection (unless otherwise noted).