

Laboratory Technical Bulletin

Date: July 15, 2020

Effective Date: July 20, 2020

Title: Outpatient Blood Culture Orders

Explanation of change:

In order to standardize the process, blood cultures collected on outpatients will automatically include two sets of blood culture bottles.

It is NOT recommended to collect only one blood culture set. Multiple blood cultures are more likely to detect blood stream infection and enhance interpretation of coagulase negative staphylococci. Coagulase negative staphylococci are the number one pathogen as well as the number one contaminant in neonates.

Two sets are to be collected on all patients. One pediatric bottle is acceptable for pediatric patients. Ideally, blood culture sets should be collected from two different venipuncture sites. If the patient only has one access site, wait 10 minutes and perform a separate venipuncture on the same site.

Old	New
Multiple orders placed in EMR to generate two blood culture sets.	Single order placed in EMR and will automatically include two blood culture sets.
	NO CHANGE TO ORDER CODE

Please contact the Laboratory at (607)274-4474 with any questions.

	Date	7/20/20	
Dr. Daniel Sudilovsky, Laboratory Medical Director			
Ton Burge	Date	7.20.26.	
Toni Burger, Laboratory Administrative Director			