

# Anaerobic Culture Guide

Site	Acceptable	Unacceptable
<b>Head and Neck</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abscess aspirate obtained by needle and syringe after surface decontamination</li> <li>▪ Biopsy material surgically obtained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Throat or nasopharyngeal swabs</li> <li>▪ Gingival swabs</li> <li>▪ Superficial material collected with swabs</li> </ul>
<b>Lungs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Transtracheal aspirate</li> <li>▪ Material from percutaneous lung puncture</li> <li>▪ Biopsy material surgically obtained</li> <li>▪ Bronchoscopic specimen obtained by protected brush</li> <li>▪ Thoracotomy specimen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expectorated sputum</li> <li>▪ Induced sputum</li> <li>▪ Endotracheal aspirate</li> <li>▪ Bronchoscopic specimens not collected by protected brush.</li> </ul>
<b>Nervous System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abscess aspirate obtained by needle and syringe</li> <li>▪ Biopsy material surgically obtained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aerobic swabs</li> </ul>
<b>Abdomen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Peritoneal fluid obtained by needle and syringe</li> <li>▪ Abscess aspirate obtained by needle and syringe</li> <li>▪ Bile</li> <li>▪ Biopsy material surgically obtained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aerobic swabs</li> </ul>
<b>Urinary tract</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Suprapubic aspirate</li> <li>▪ Bladder aspirate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Voided urine</li> <li>▪ Catheterized urine</li> </ul>
<b>Female genital tract</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Culdoscopy specimens</li> <li>▪ Endometrial aspirate obtained by suction or protected collector</li> <li>▪ Abscess aspirate obtained by needle and syringe</li> <li>▪ Biopsy material surgically obtained</li> <li>▪ IUD for Actinomyces species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Vaginal or cervical swabs</li> </ul>
<b>Bone and joint</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aspirate obtained by needle and syringe</li> <li>▪ Biopsy material surgically obtained</li> <li>▪ Periprosthetic tissue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Superficial material collected with swabs</li> </ul>
<b>Ocular</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Vitreous fluid</li> <li>▪ Corneal Scrapings</li> <li>▪ Conjunctival swab pre-moistened with sterile saline</li> </ul>	
<b>Wound or Abscess</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Surgically prepared specimens</li> <li>▪ Closed abscess aspirate via syringe through disinfected adjacent skin</li> <li>▪ Sinus/fistulous tracts</li> <li>▪ Fluid aspirated via plastic catheter inserted into tract.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Swab of wound surface</li> </ul>
<b>Surgical Specimens</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deep tissue taken at surgery including tissues in thoracic or abdominal cavities</li> <li>▪ Tissue biopsies</li> <li>▪ Bone lesions</li> <li>▪ Bone marrow</li> </ul>	
<b>Decubitis/Skin Ulcers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aspirates of pus or tissue biopsies obtained after decontamination of overlying skin or debridement of necrotic tissue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Swab of ulcer surface</li> </ul>
<b>Other Sterile Body Sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pericardial fluid</li> <li>▪ Pleural fluid</li> <li>▪ Synovial fluid</li> </ul>	