




Meritus Medical Laboratory

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Director: Michael O'Donoghue, M.D., F.C.A.P. Associate Director: Juanwu Xie, MD

To: All Medical Staff
From: Michael O'Donoghue, M.D. 
Date: May 9, 2023
Re: Anaerobic/Aerobic Culture Ordering (LAB 1821)

Effective immediately, the Microbiology Laboratory will be making some changes in Epic that will affect the ordering of Anaerobic/Aerobic Cultures (LAB 1821). Specimen types that are duplicated in either Body Fluid, Upper Respiratory or Nasal culture are being eliminated from the Anaerobic/Aerobic culture.

The following specimen types will no longer be available on Lab1821 ANAEROBIC/AEROBIC CULTURE W GRAM STAIN. Refer to alternative order options for these specimen types listed below. Please be sure to update any personal preference lists as needed.

Removed Specimen Types

Amniotic Fluid
BAL (Bronchoalveolar lavage)
Body Fluid
Synovial Fluid
Upper Respiratory
Washings

Alternative Orders

Lab1823 BODY FLUID CULTURE WITH GRAM STAIN

Amniotic Fluid
Body Fluid
Synovial Fluid

Lab1829 RESPIRATORY CULTURE WITH GRAM STAIN

BAL
Washings

Lab229 NASAL CULTURE

We welcome your comment on this change and other laboratory issues. Please feel free to contact me at (301) 665-4900 or Chanhpheng Phengvath, Microbiology Supervisor at (301) 665-4936 with any microbiology questions or comments.