

Acceptable and Unacceptable Sources for Anaerobic Culture

Site	Acceptable Source	Unacceptable Sources
Head & Neck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Abscess aspirate obtained by needle after surface decontamination. ·Biopsy material surgically obtained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Throat or nasopharyngeal swab ·Gingival swab ·Superficial material collected with swab
Lungs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Transtracheal aspirate ·Material from percutaneous lung puncture ·Biopsy material surgically obtained ·Bronchoscopic specimen obtained by protected brush ·Thoracotomy specimen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Expectorated sputum ·Induced sputum ·Tracheal aspirate ·Bronchial washing or bronchoscopic specimens not specially collected
CNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Abscess aspirate obtained by needle ·Biopsy material surgically obtained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Aerobic swab
Abdomen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Peritoneal fluid obtained by needle ·Abscess aspirate obtained by needle ·Bile ·Biopsy material surgically obtained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Aerobic swab
Urinary Tract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Suprapubic aspirate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Voided urine ·Catheterized urine
Female Genital Tract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Culdoscopy specimens ·Endometrial aspirate ·Abscess aspirate ·Biopsy material surgically obtained ·Intrauterine device (IUD) for <i>Actinomyces</i> species only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Vaginal or cervical swabs
Bone and Joint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Aspirate obtained by needle ·Biopsy material surgically obtained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Superficial material collected with swabs
Soft Tissues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Aspirate obtained by needle ·Biopsy material surgically obtained ·Aspirate from sinus tract obtained by needle ·Deep aspirate of open wound margin obtained through decontaminated skin ·Deep aspirate of surface ulcer obtained through decontaminated skin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Superficial material collected from skin surface or edges of wound
Stomach and Small bowel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Only for work-up of blind-loop or malabsorption syndrome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Gastric and small bowel contents
Large Bowel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Only for culture or toxin assay for suspected involvement of <i>Clostridium difficile</i> or <i>Clostridium botulinum</i> with medical director review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Feces