



Blood Cultures, Routine

Alternate Name:	None	
Performing Lab:	New Hanover	
Specimen Container:		
Adults:	Bactec bottles: blue-top aerobic and purple-top anaerobic	
Volume Range for each culture set:	Bactec Aerobic Blue Bottle:	Bactec Anaerobic (purple) Bottle:
16 - 20 mL:	8 – 10 mL	8 – 10 mL
13 - 16 mL:	8 mL	5 – 8 mL
10 - 12 mL:	5 – 7 mL	5 mL
5 - 9 mL:	Entire blood amount	0 mL
Testing Availability	Routine:	24 hours/day
	Stat:	Yes
Turnaround Time:	Positive cultures are called immediately to the pharmacist for the patient's location.	
	Negative cultures are held for 5 days.	
Special Handling:	None	
Patient Preparation:	None	

Specimen Stability:**Reference Range:** No growth**Critical Value:** Any growth**CPT Code:** 87040**Testing Methodology:** Culture**Causes for Specimen Rejection:** Improper labeling
Specimen container must not be contaminated on the outside.**Other Comments:****Clinical Significance:** To isolate and identify potential aerobic and anaerobic pathogens, and perform antimicrobial susceptibility testing of the aerobic organisms where indicated.