

Test: Enteric bacterial pathogens, referred cultures

Specimen submitter: Hospitals and/or clinical laboratories that have isolated an enteric pathogen such as salmonella, shigella, E. coli O157, vibrio and yersinia sp. and are submitting a pure culture of the suspected organism for confirmation as required by Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 11-56.

Specimen receiving time: The specimens will be accepted from Monday thru Friday by 3:30 p.m., except on days in which the laboratory is closed.

Turn around Time: 7 days

Specimen requirements: The specimen should be submitted on a tubed media such as a TSI, TSA, or LIA slant. Plated media is unacceptable. The media should be properly sealed to prevent leakage in transit. This tubed-specimen must be properly labeled with patient name, identifying accession number of laboratory and any other relevant information. The tube media must be protected from being damaged in transit. A properly filled out 81.3 requisition form is to be submitted with the specimen. See “requisition form” section below. Specimen information on the tube must match the information on the submission form.

Specimen transport: Specimens can be transported by courier and/or air transport if necessary, if arriving from the neighbor island laboratories. Please follow proper IATA and DOT regulations.

Requisition form:

- All specimens must be submitted with a properly-filled 81.3 requisition form.
- The requisition form must legibly include patient name (or other unique identifier). Do not use a sharpie pen to mark the form as the reverse of the sheet is also used as a worksheet.
- The form must not be wet or soiled. If the submission form can be enclosed in a ziplocked baggie, that would be best for protecting the form if specimen leakage were to somehow occur.
- The test requested should be clearly written on the submission form. For instance, “salmonella serotyping” should be in the test requested box.
- The date of specimen collection is required
- Any additional information relevant and necessary to assure accurate and timely testing and reporting of results is helpful . For instance, if “O” grouping was done, it would be of assistance if this result was listed on the

form.

- If the requisition form is received in a manner so that it does not have to be reproduced or copied is desirable. For instance, if the requisition form is crumpled up, it would be difficult to place in a printer to accession and label properly.

Normal value:

Salmonella serotype
Shigella species and serotype if warranted
E. coli O157 confirmation and serotyping
Vibrio speciation
Yersinia speciation

Result notification:

Final laboratory reports will faxed and mailed to the Disease Investigation Branch (DIB)/Disease Outbreak Control Division (DOCD). Final results will be mailed to private submitters.

Comments:

The specimen must be received in the state laboratory in a timely manner so that epidemiological investigations can be initiated. Timely submission (from date of collection) is also important so that the specimen turnaround time can be followed in the enteric laboratory and PFGE testing can begin in a cooperative manner so testing data can be combined to give state epidemiologists the timeliest and most accurate information possible . A specimen should be submitted that is viable and not contaminated.

Unacceptable conditions:

- Leaking specimens
- Specimens that were not properly stored and/or transported
- Illegible or incomplete requisition forms
- Contaminated or soiled requisition forms.
- Specimen without a requisition form
- Requisition and specimen identifiers do not match
- No submitter or return address on form
- Duplicate specimens from the same patient, same site, on the same day

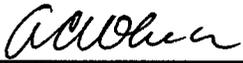
Test location:

State of Hawaii Dept. of Health Laboratories
Medical Microbiology Branch
Bacteriology-Parasitology Section
2725 Waimano Home Road, 2nd. Floor
Pearl City, HI 96782

Contact information:

Phone: (808) 453-6706
Fax: (808) 453-6716

Approved:



A. Christian Whelen, Ph.D.

1-7-2013
Date