Maui District Health Laboratory

Specimen Submission Requirements for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Culture

**Test:**
Presumptive culture testing for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*

**Specimen Receiving:**
Specimens for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* will be accepted from Monday thru Friday 7:45 AM to 3:30 PM, except on holidays.

**Turn Around Time:**
5 days

**Specimen Submitters:**
Submitters are authorized by the STD Control Program of the Harm Reduction Services Branch

**Specimen Requirements:**
Patient culture on Martin-Lewis plate, placed in a sealed plastic pouch with an activated CO2 tablet [tablet is activated by opening the foiled tablet]. Inoculated plates are held at ambient/room temperature. The patient culture is properly labeled (on the bottom) with patient name/unique identifier, culture site, & date of collection.

**Specimen Transport:**
Transport inoculated plate in a sealed plastic pouch with an activated CO2 tablet at ambient/room temperature. Authorized submitters must deliver the specimens to the Maui District Health Laboratory as soon as possible for optimum recovery.

**Requisition Form:**
All specimens must be submitted with the appropriate *Confidential GC Laboratory Request Form*. The requisition form must legibly include: patient name (or other unique identifier), date of collection, culture site, and submittter info. [Agency/Dr., Address, & Phone]. The specimen label must match the requisition form with which it is submitted. The form is kept in a separate compartment from the sealed sample.

**Normal Value:**
*Neisseria gonorrhoeae* not found.
Result Notification: Final laboratory reports will be forwarded to the submitter and the Maui STD Program Epi Specialist for disposition and distribution.

Comments: Presumptive isolates of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* are sent to the State Laboratory for confirmation and drug susceptibility testing for disease surveillance purposes and monitoring of emerging drug-resistant strains. Drug susceptibility results are reported only to the STD Control Program.

Unacceptable Submissions:
- Leaking or cracked specimens
- Old or Contaminated or overgrown specimens
- Incorrect or incompletely-filled requisition forms
- Nonviable specimens
- Media that has not been inoculated
- Specimens without requisition forms
- Requisition/specimen identifiers that do not match
- Expired, retracted, dehydrated, wet or burnt plates
- CO2 bag not sealed when received or CO2 bag punctured by staple

Test Location: State of Hawaii Dept. of Health
Maui District Health Laboratory
121 Mahalani Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Contact Information: Phone: (808) 984-2131
Fax: (808) 984-2132

Approved:

__A. Christian Whelen, Ph.D.__

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Date