

Bacterial Identification – Anaerobic Information Sheet

Overview

MDL Test Name

Bacterial Identification – Anaerobic

MDL Test Code

BAC_IDN

Ask at Order Questions

Source

Specimen Source

Pure culture isolate on suitable agar (solid) medium; slant or plate

Specimen Requirements

Container/Tube

Suitable agar (solid) medium for isolate submitted. Submit a sealed plate in an anaerobic transport bag to maintain viability.

Specimen Volume (minimum)

Pure culture with viable growth must be submitted

Sample Stability Time

Stability varies with organism and transport system; usually up to 48 hours at ambient temperatures but fastidious organisms should be sent promptly.

Transport/Storage Conditions

Ambient (20 – 25°C)

Patient Preparation / Collection Instructions

N/A

Performance

Days Performed

Daily; Monday – Sunday

Report Available (TAT) – (Once received at MDL)

2 – 4 days

Specimen Retention Time

7 days

Method Description

Identification methods may include any of the following: conventional biochemical testing, matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight (MALDI-TOF) mass spectrometry, and commercial identification panels. Genus and species are reported on aerobic bacterial isolates whenever possible.

Reference Values

Identification of organism.

Cautions

- Testing cannot be performed on mixed cultures, the submitted isolate must be pure.
- Testing ability depends on the viability of the organism submitted.
- Verify labeled appropriately and securely sealed for transport to avoid breaking or leakage. Recommend securing the lid with parafilm or similar material. Place in an individually sealed bag and then in an anaerobic transport bag.