

MRSA Screen by Culture Information Sheet

OVERVIEW

MDL Test Name

MRSA Screen by Culture

MDL Test Code

MRSAS

Ask at Order Questions

N/A

Specimen Source

Anterior Nares

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

Container/Tube

ESwab

Specimen Volume (minimum)

- N/A (swab specimen)
- Must have swab present in container

Sample Stability Time

48 hours

Transport/Storage Conditions

- Refrigerated (2 – 8°C)
- Ambient (20 – 25°C)

Patient Preparation/Collection Instructions

Refer to the Nares ESwab Collection Guide

PERFORMANCE

Days Performed

Daily; Monday – Sunday

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

24 – 32 hours

Specimen Retention Time

7 days

Method Description

A nasal swab is inoculated onto Spectra MRSA agar, a selective and differential chromogenic medium used in qualitative detection of nasal colonization of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).

Reference Values

No growth of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).

Cautions

This test is intended only for screening for MRSA colonization and is not intended to diagnose MRSA infection.