

COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION OF SPECIMEN

It is important that the material to be tested be correctly obtained and transported with ensuring sampling sterility.

Types of specimens

1. Swab: Swabs either alone or swabs within transport media are used.

Swabs may be taken from tonsil in case of tonsillitis, nose in case *S. aureus* carrier, genital secretion, surface wounds which required a transport medium and only analyses for aerobic bacteria.



2. Pus: for deep and closed wounds, liquid material should be sampled, if possible, with a syringe. Use of special transport medium for anaerobes.

3. Sputum: is required in cases of pneumonia and tuberculosis.

4. Blood: is required in many cases like typhoid fever, brucellosis and systemic diseases.

5. Cerebrospinal fluid: CSF fluid is withdrawn by a lumbar puncture which must be done by a specialist, this is required in case of meningitis.

6. Urine: midstream urine is preferred, bacterial counts must be determined if contamination is to be effectively differentiated from infection. At counts in morning urine of $\geq 10^5$ cell/ml an infection is highly probable. At counts of $\leq 10^3$ cell/ml rather improbable.

7. Stool: this is required in case of gastrointestinal tract infections , diarrhea, dysentery, food poisoning.



Thank you

