

Rectal Culture Test Instructions

This leaflet gives you information on how to take a culture swab to see if you are carrying any HRMO bacteria. Highly resistant microorganisms (HRMO) is a collective name for certain types of bacteria that are resistant to the most commonly used antibiotics. Please note that your situation may differ from the one described in this leaflet. If you are also being screened for MRSA (Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*), you will be given separate instructions for this.

Depending on the type of bacteria/HRMO, you will take one or more culture swabs. You can read about this in the enclosed letter. Please read the step-by-step instructions completely before you start.

Important

In some cases, cultures may not be useful. Contact the Infection Prevention Department if you: are on or have taken antibiotics in the last 48 hours.

Culture swab

The essentials

1. One or more sterile containers with a swab and a tube (image 1)
2. Stickers with your patient details, including: 'collection date and rectum'.
3. Application form from MMI (image 2)
4. Safety bag with white absorbent pad (image 3)
5. Return envelope (image 4)



Image 1



Image 2

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Image 3



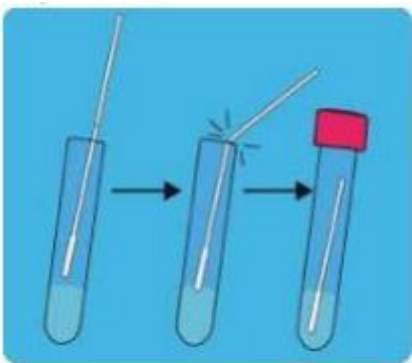
Image 4

Steps for rectal culture

1. Fill in the dates of collection on the MMI request form.
2. The test system contains a tube with fluid and a swab.
3. Open the sterile package at the top.



1. Take a rectal/anus culture: insert the swab a little way into the anus (as far as a thermometer).
2. Remove the pink cap from the tube containing the fluid, making sure the fluid does not spill.
3. Put the cotton swab into the liquid and break off the swab at the indicated line:



1. Screw the pink cap back onto the tube, wedging the cotton swab in the tube.
2. Check that the cap is screwed tight and does not leak.
3. Stick the patient sticker with your details and the inscription 'collection date and rectum' onto the tube.

Packaging

Wrap the tube(s) with the cotton swab(s) in the white absorbent pad, then put them in the plastic bag provided (safety

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bag, see image 3, 'essentials').

Return

The fastest method is to drop off the return envelope at the Blood Collection Department at any Adrz site. You can also post the return envelope; a stamp is not required.

Results

The results of the test will take at least three working days. The specialist who requested the test will receive the results and will only contact you if the results give a reason to do so (if you are found to have a HRMO).

Questions?

If you have any questions after reading this leaflet, please contact the Infection Prevention Department at +31 88 125 44 50.