



**Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services**

# **Microbiology**

## **Key points to get the best out of your samples**

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**23.03.2023**

BSPS is a joint venture between: Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust; Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust; Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust; Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust and Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

Legal entity host: Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust

Reduce the number of rejected samples right across the network.

Reduce re-visits and re-sampling

Reduce lab time rejecting

Frustration for all

Maintain the quality of the result

Find useful change ideas that others can adopt.

Sustain the change

# FPH Micro Lab



Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services

FPH lab - 4 acute hospital Trusts and surrounding catchments

Data from Nov '22: 62,697 samples

1,506 urines; 5,542 faeces; 1,272 sputum; 1,701 wound swabs; 515 nail clippings



# Rejected samples



Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services

4074 samples rejected Jan-Aug'22 (8 months)

- 250 4PID
- 1303 clinical details
- 8 insufficient
- 10 leaked
- 30 mismatched
- 302 Request received with no sample, or empty pot.
- 35 poor quality
- 7 duplicate requests
- 545 unlabelled
- 1563 Wrong sample received

# Rejected samples



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# What these rejections mean



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- 4PID

The lab needs 4 patient identifiers in order to book the sample onto the LIMS

Minimum of 3 matching PIDs from sample to form

22M00009753 ABC,106TEST ( MIC )

**ABC, 106TEST** Born 17-Jul-1988 (34y) Gender Male NHS No.

Address  Phone and email  (USCRC)CV106XXX  Allergies unavailable

Investigations Demographics Additional Tests

**HWP** **Microbiology Request**

Order No  Referral Lab

Patient Cat. NHS  NHS  Age 34  Copy1:

Requestor UNK  Unknown Clinician Copy2:

Location AEW  ACCIDENT EMERGENCY WP Copy3:

Clinical  Copy Adhoc:

Details

Notes

Therapy

Sample Date 30/12/2022 10:12 Received Date 30/12/2022 15:28

Tests  BCPF  B/C PAED FLUID  INRA  INTERIM REPORT?

RTBD  RETURN TO BENCH

INRD  INTERIM REPORT?

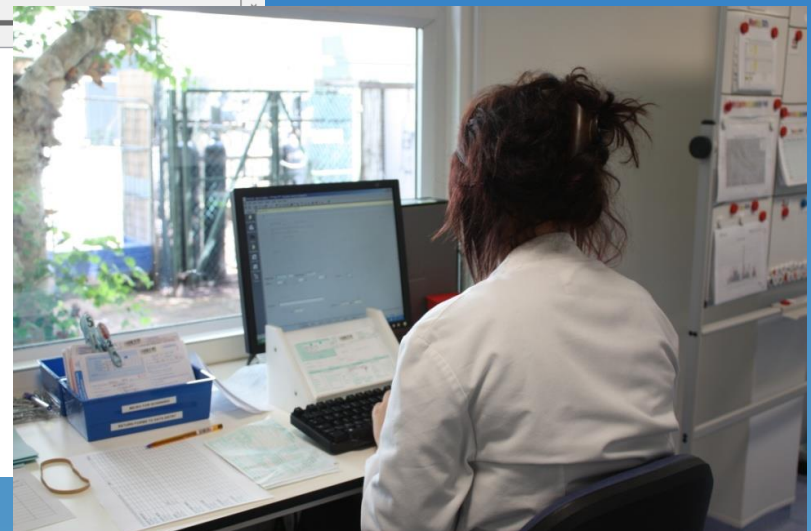
RTBA  RETURN TO BENCH

Onset  Travel

Urgent  Bleep No

Phone  On Call

Pregnant  EDD



# What these rejections mean

- Unlabelled samples

231 - urines

141 – faeces

68 – genital swabs

54 – wounds swabs



# What these rejections mean



Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services

- Insufficient clinical details

918 - urines

189 - wound swabs

76 - genital swabs

63 - faeces



# What these rejections mean

- Insufficient clinical details
- Samples will be processed differently based on the clinical details you provide

Site	Primary TLC	Additional TLC	Comments
Oral swab	WC		Refer to Orthopaedic SOP
Eye swab (superficial)	EYEC		Refer to Orthopaedic SOP
Eye swab (deep e.g. orbit)	EYEC	SABE, GRAM	Ref lab if ?Acanth
Eye swab (GUM clinic)	EYEC		
Eye (?Acanth/keratitis)	EYEC		
Eye lid swab	WC	CHO	
Finger swab	WC	SAB	
Fingernail swab	WC	SAB	
Fluid culture	FLDC		Not requiring culture
FNA for bacteria only	SFC		
FNA for bacteria and fungi	SFC	SABX	Mycology bench
FNA for fungi only	SABX		Mycology bench
Folliculitis swab	WC	SAB	
Foot swab	WC	SAB	
Foot ulcer swab	ULC		
Foreign travel (tropical)	WC		
Forehead swab	WC		Refer to Genital table
Forekin swab	WC		Refer to Genital table
Genital swab - routine	WC	SAB	Refer to Genital table
Genital swab - exotic	WC	SAB	Refer to Genital table
Gall bladder pus	PUSC	GULL	
Gall bladder swab	DWBC	GALL	
Gangrene swab	SWSC		See Fluid table
Gastric Aspirate	WC	SAB	
Gastrostomy site	WC	WYN	
Graft swab	WC	SAB	
Groin swab	OSC	WYN	
Gum swab	WC	WYN	
Hip fluid - synovial	FLDC		See Fluid table
Hip fluid - THR/revision			See Fluid table
Inguinal swab	WC	SAB	
Intertrigo swab	WC	SAB	
Joint fluid - synovial	WC	SAB	See Fluid Table
Joint fluid - replacement/revision	WC	SAB	See Fluid Table



Site	Primary TLC	Additional TLC	Comments
Eye clinic plate culture/corneal scrape culture	ECPC		Pre-inoculated plates - Document on form what was received
Eye swab (superficial)>4wks old)	EYEC		
Eye swab (<4 wks old)	EYNC		
Eye swab (GUM clinic)	EYEC		
Eye swab (deep e.g. orbit)	EYEC	SABE, GRAM	
Eye (?Acanth/keratitis)	EYEC		Ref lab if ?Acanth
Eye lid swab	WC	CHO	
Finger swab	WC	SAB	
Fingernail swab	WC	SAB	
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# What these rejections mean

- Insufficient clinical details
- If patient is on an antibiotic – will directly impact the culture report

Clin Details: Haematuria Protein, blood, nitrates, leucocytes in sample  
CLX: NIL  
Status: Complete

nP High Risk Clinical Details  
nP Travel Clinical Details  
nB Return to bench (Urines)  
tB Urine Culture  
aB Culture Report :

1) >10\*8 cfu/L of Escherichia coli

Amoxicillin	1)	R
Co-amoxiclav		S
Cefpodoxime		(S)
Cephalexin		S
Nitrofurantoin		S
Trimethoprim		S
Ciprofloxacin		(S)
Gentamicin		(S)

# What these rejections mean



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- No sample received

140 - urines

74 - faeces

Samples that patients drop in at a later date?

Double check by receptionist?

# What these rejections mean

- Wrong sample received
- 119 faeces – swab, FIT kit
- 329 swabs – viral swabs received
- 988 urines – white top urines



# What these rejections mean



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- Labelled – clear and minimum of 4PID
- Sufficient sample
- Correct sample type for the test requested
- Clinical details to help with culture interpretation and safety
- Tighten sample to avoid leaks



Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services

# Thank you

<https://www.berkshireandsurreypathologyservices.nhs.uk/dept-info-tests/>

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