



Memorandum – Micro #193

To: UNCMC and Hillsborough Attending and Faculty Practice Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

From: *KA* Kevin Alby, PhD
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Date: April 22, 2020

SUBJECT: Updates to Pediatric Blood Culture Testing

Effective April 23th, 2020, there will be two updates to Pediatric Blood culture testing. The first is an update to the test order BLOOD CULTURE, PEDIATRIC [LAB5062] that will require providers to select an approximate weight for the child of <30 kg or >=30 kg. This change will assist in ensuring the correct number of bottles are collected (see chart below) by printing one or two labels respectively.

The second change is the introduction of Pediatric (Pink top) Blood Culture bottles. These bottles are stocked in central distribution (Lawson# 370966). These bottles are designed to provide better yield on small volume draws. These bottles will replace the traditional Aerobic (Blue top) bottles in draws for children <40 kg. For children greater than 40 kg, fully filled (8-10 mL per bottle) adult blood culture sets (one pink bottle and one blue bottle) are recommended.

Questions can be directed to the Microbiology Lab 984-974-1805 or Dr. Kevin Alby at kevin.alby@unchealth.unc.edu.

Patient Weight	Minimum Fill	Maximum Fill	Number and Type of Bottles	Example
<20kg	1mL Per bottle	3mL Per bottle	1 Pediatric bottle (Pink)	
20kg – 30kg	3mL Per bottle	5mL Per bottle	1 Pediatric bottle (Pink)	
30kg – 40kg	3mL Per bottle	5mL Per bottle	1 Pediatric bottle (Pink) 1 Anaerobic Bottle (Purple)	
>40kg	8mL Per bottle	10mL Per bottle* *Consult lab if difficulty obtaining appropriate volume.	1 Aerobic bottle (Blue) 1 Anaerobic bottle (Purple)	
Note: For FUNGAL CULTURES: Place a minimum of 3 mL per bottle, up to a maximum of 5 mL per bottle into the BACTEC Myco/F Lytic bottles.				