

Helicobacter pylori, culture

Test Name:

Helicobacter pylori, culture

Ordering Information:

H. pylori culture

Organism(s)/Disease(s):

Helicobacter pylori

Body Source(s):

Biopsy, duodenal

Biopsy, gastric

Clinical Prerequisite(s):

The following groups of medication should ***not be used*** for the period indicated, before specimen collection for the *Helicobacter pylori* culture. These agents can affect the laboratory's ability to recover *H. pylori*:

Agents	Stop for:
Proton pump inhibitors (H ⁺ , K ⁺ ATPase Inhibitor)	14 days
Antibiotics	28 days
Bismuth preparations (e.g., Pepto-Bismol)	14 days

NOTE: *Helicobacter pylori* culture for susceptibility testing is performed ***only*** if a history of treatment failure is indicated

Requisition/Forms:

Requisitions are provided in the collection kit for each specimen site

1. Label each requisition with:
 - Patient label that provides:
 - Patient full first and last name
 - PHN or MRN
 - Ordering Physician information
 - Date(yyyy/mm/dd) and time of collection
2. Place requisition in the outside pocket of the respective biohazard bag
3. Place completed checklist in the outside pocket of one of the biohazard bags

Collection Device/Tube Type:

H. pylori Collection Kit

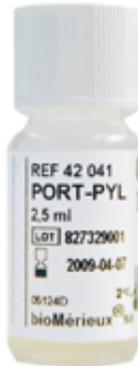
Comments:

The day before the procedure, obtain a **collection kit** from the hospital laboratory Accession Department

- **Refrigerate** the kit overnight

The *H. pylori* collection kit contains:

- Portagerm Transport Media
- requisitions
- a collection checklist
- biohazard bags



Alternatively, Tryptic Soy Broth (TSB) media can be used and will be distributed in the event the Portagerm Transport Media is unavailable

- The process for collection is the same as for Portagerm Transport Media

Collection Instructions:

1. **Prior to sample collection**, allow the transport media to **warm to room temperature**
2. Collect two double-bite biopsies
 - one from the **Antrum** - near the pylorus
 - one from the **Gastric body** – greater curvature
3. Place ***each*** biopsy ***into its own*** transport media container
4. Label each sample with:
 - Patient full first and last name
 - Personal Health number (PHN) or Medical Record number (MRN)
 - Body site of biopsy (antrum or gastric body)
5. Place each biopsy into a **separate biohazard bag**

Handling/Storage Comments:

The specimen **must** be received in the performing Microbiology Lab **within 2 hours of collection**

Testing is performed at the following Microbiology Labs:

- APL Calgary Diagnostic & Scientific Centre (DSC)
- APL Edmonton Base Laboratory
- APL Medicine Hat Regional Hospital

Send:

- labelled specimens
- requisitions
- [Gastric or Duodenal Biopsy Collection Checklist](#)

Frequency of Testing:

Daily

TAT for negative cultures: 10 days

Turnaround Times

[See Microbiology Information»](#)

Last Reviewed:

10 May 2024

Printed: 12 February 2026

This printed copy may not contain the most current information, visit www.albertaprecisionlabs.ca for the latest information.