



آغا خان یونیورسٹی ہسپتال

The Aga Khan University Hospital

Clinical Laboratories

Specimen Collection and Transportation Information

Test Name	Mnemonic	Section	Specimen Type
Blood Culture	BLCS	Clinical Microbiology	Blood

- **Preparation of the Patient:** Appropriate skin disinfection (See blood culture collection guide)
- **Type of Collection Container:** Bactec Culture bottle
- **Types and Amounts of Preservatives or Anticoagulants:** NA
- **Quantity of Specimen to be collected:** 8-10ml (Aerobic & Anaerobic), 1-3 ml Paeds
 - **Minimum Quantity:** Variable according to patient weight
- **Transportation Temperature:** Room temperature
- **Need for Special Timing for Collection (where applicable):** Preferably during fever spike, for multiple cultures should be collected at least 15 min apart
- **Specimen Stability Information:** Check the physical appearance of bottle for turbidity, contamination or any cracks before inoculating the patient blood. Do not incubate or refrigerate
- **Special Instruction:** Do not collect blood from a peripheral IV cannula, collect specimen after proper skin disinfection
- **Rejection Criteria:** Reject if no patient identifier on bottle(s) or accompanying request slip
- **Need for Appropriate Clinical Data, When Indicated (Patient history):** Required

Methodology	Reporting Scheme	Day Performed	Cut Off Time Main Lab	Cut Off Time Karachi Points	Cut Off Time Out of Karachi Points
BACTEC 9240	Daily, after 7 days	Routine	00.01	10.00	Contact nearest Collection Point