

Blood Culture Collect: Child Health – Guideline Summary

Temp $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$? Signs of sepsis? e.g. Chills, Rigors, \uparrow HR, \downarrow BP

- A blood culture set in Child Health consist of at least one blood culture bottle – use the correct bottle and collect the correct amount based on patient weight.
- Patients under the Starship Blood and Cancer Centre are to have a minimum of two culture bottles sent. Either:
 - x2 peripheral
 - x2 from single lumen catheters
 - Each lumen of multi-lumen catheters
- Additional blood cultures taken from separate sites should be obtained for patients in Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)
- If high clinical suspicion of anaerobe infection, send additional anaerobic bottle, always inoculate aerobic bottle first

Remember:

- Always fill blood culture bottles first before inoculating other blood tubes
- Do not allow air to enter anaerobic (purple) bottle
- Invert bottles to mix
- *Label Specimens:* Do not cover base of bottle or barcode with label
- Place bottles in specimen bag and transport to laboratory via lamson as soon as possible



Paediatric Aerobic

Use if weight <30kg

**1-5mL blood required
(0.25ml/kg)**



Aerobic

Use if weight >30kg

**8-10ml of blood
required**



Anaerobic

*(consider if anaerobe
infection suspected)*

Use if weight >30kg

**8-10ml of blood
required**