Microbiology Specimen Collection Guide
For UCSF Operating Rooms

CSF
- CSF bacterial culture
- CSF fungal culture for Coccidioides
- AFB culture (approval needed)

TISSUE
- Bacterial culture, normally sterile site
- Fungal culture
- Viral culture
- AFB culture

FLUID
- Bacterial culture, normally sterile site
- Fungal culture
- AFB culture
- Viral culture

SWABS
- Viral culture

AVOID SWABS IF POSSIBLE!

CSF
- Anaerobic Transport Medium
  - Place tissue on top of soft agar medium
  - Keep small piece moist with 2-3 drops sterile saline
- Sterile Black Top Tube

Tissue
- Sterile Black Top Tube
  - Place tissue on top of soft agar medium
  - Keep small piece moist with 2-3 drops sterile saline

Fluid
- Sterile Black Top Tube
  - If large
- Viral Transport Medium
  - Obtain from lab

Swabs
- Amies Charcoal Transport Medium
  - Obtain from lab
  - Cotton swab with wire shaft

Bacterial culture orders:
- Nonsterile site (mucosal tissues - GI, sinus, abscess, surgical drainage)
- Sterile site (normally sterile tissues and fluids)

- Label sample, confirm match with requisition
- Indicate source on tube and requisition
- Send immediately to laboratory

Swabs not accepted for AFB or Fungal cultures