



ANAEROBIC TRANSPORT MEDIA INOCULATION PROTOCOL

- **Obtain specimen:**
 - **For bowel:**
 - **Open 18-26 cm (8-12") of bowel.**
 - **Push aside bowel contents with gloved finger or tongue depressor.**
 - **Swab aggressively over the length of the open bowel, so that the swab presses deeply into mucosa and may even scrape off some mucosa. (Be careful to hold swab shaft only at the end to prevent contamination)**
 - **For solid organs, follow protocol for aseptically collecting bacterial culture swabs from solid tissues**
- **Check expiration date on transport media (If blue/purple ring more than 3 mm thick at top of media do not use)**
- **Loosen screw cap (Do not tip tube horizontally with cap open. There is an oxygen-excluding gas cap above the semisolid media)**
- **Insert swab into media once, to ~5mm from bottom (Do not pull swab in and out)**
- **Break or cut swab shaft evenly with lip of tube below the point of hand contact**
- **Replace and tighten cap ASAP (Do not over tighten)**
- **Label tube with animal name/number, owner name, date, and site swabbed**
- **Hold at room temperature (20-25°C/68-77°F) prior to shipping (Do not refrigerate)**
- **Pack and deliver to lab within 72 hr of inoculation (Do not chill)**
- **Protect from temperature extremes in transit (Keep at 20-25°C/68-77°F)**
- **Other information on**
 - **Media has a color agent that changes to blue/purple when exposed to oxygen**
 - **Some blue/purple change will occur after specimen is inserted in the media. This should convert back to normal color due to reducing agents in the media that remove oxygen**
 - **Aerobic and fungal culture can also be performed from samples in this media**



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