



MercyOne Des Moines Laboratory
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Des Moines Laboratory Update

Date: June 25th, 2024

Discontinuation of Fungal Blood Testing:

Until further notice, fungal blood cultures will no longer be offered due to supply issues.

Please follow the process below until further notice.

- If Candidemia infection is suspected, please order a **Routine Blood Culture (C Bld)**.
- If bloodstream or deep-seated fungal infections are highly suspected and blood culture bottles remain negative after a standard 5-day incubation period, please order a **Long-Term Blood Culture (C Bld LT)**.
 - Please write in the order comments "*Check for Fungus*".

Long term blood cultures are collected according to our standard blood culture collection procedure and are held on the blood culture instrument for 28 days. Specimens with "*Check for Fungus*" in the order comment will be subcultured to the appropriate fungal media in addition to being placed on the blood culture instrument.

**Note that blood antigen, antibody and/or PCR testing are available for Cryptococcus, Histoplasma, Blastomyces, and Coccidioides species.

Please contact Jill Noble at 515-247-4038 with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for choosing MercyOne Des Moines Laboratory.