

# Specimen Management in Clinical Bacteriology

Clinical Bacteriology · Practice Test · 10 Questions

---

**1. What percentage of laboratory errors typically occur in the preanalytical phase?**

- A) 10%
- B) 30%
- C) 50%
- D) 70%

**2. Which material is strictly prohibited for use as a swab in microbiology?**

- A) Dacron
- B) Rayon
- C) Cotton
- D) Calcium Alginate

**3. What is the gold standard anticoagulant for blood cultures?**

- A) Heparin
- B) EDTA
- C) Citrate
- D) SPS

**4. What is the ideal transport time for most clinical specimens to the laboratory?**

- A) Within 30 minutes to 2 hours
- B) Within 4 to 6 hours
- C) Within 12 hours
- D) Within 24 hours

**5. Which specimen is generally considered not acceptable for diagnostic culture?**

- A) Clean-catch urine
- B) Suprapubic aspirate
- C) Foley catheter tip
- D) Straight-catheterized urine

**6. What is the minimum requirement for a purulent sputum specimen to be acceptable for culture?**

- A) >25 PMNs/LPF and <10 SECs/LPF
- B) <10 PMNs/LPF and >25 SECs/LPF
- C) Equal amounts of PMNs and SECs
- D) No PMNs present

**7. At what temperature should specimens suspected of containing anaerobic bacteria be stored?**

- A) 4°C
- B) Room temperature (22-25°C)
- C) 37°C
- D) -20°C

**8. Which preservative is used for stool specimens to maintain trophozoite and cyst morphology?**

- A) Boric acid
- B) Cary-Blair
- C) Buffered formalin & PVA
- D) Sodium polyanethol sulfonate

**9. What is the maximum transport time for Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) samples?**

- A) 10 minutes
- B) 15 minutes
- C) 30 minutes
- D) 60 minutes

**10. What is the recommended concentration of SPS for blood cultures?**

- A) 0.01%
- B) 0.025%
- C) 0.05%
- D) 0.1%