

## LAB900 Respiratory Culture

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BMC

### Performing Location(s)

BMC

### Specimen Type

Sputum, Leuken's trap, Induced Sputum, Bronchial wash, bronchial lavage, bronchial brush, Transtracheal Biopsy

### Preferred Container

Sterile Container

### Volume Required

5 mL

### Minimum Volume

1 mL

### Transportation Needs

Refrigerate

### Storage Requirements

Refrigerate

### Causes for Rejection

Mislabeled or unlabeled specimen

Gram stain evaluation showing > 25 epithelial cells/hpf on a "deep cough" specimen

Gram stain evaluation showing < 10 PMN's/hpf

Specimen collection in sputum collection container Saccomanno's fixative (2% Carbowax solution)

### Reference Values

Population	Units	Reference Range
All populations	none	Normal Flora

### Reflex Testing

Organism identification and susceptibility studies are performed as appropriate, according to established protocols that have been approved by the Clinical Laboratory Director.

Call Microbiology (547-3707) for details.

There may be additional charges for these identification and susceptibility procedures.

Algorithm used to determine testing:

Upon receipt of a specimen for Sputum Culture, a gram stain is performed:

If the Gram Stain show > 25 epithelial cells or < 10 PMN's per hpf, no further testing will be performed. CPT 87205 is billed

If the Gram Stain shows < 25 epithelial cells and > 10 PMN's per hpf, the culture is performed. CPT's 87205 AND 87070 will be billed.

**Available STAT**

Gram Stain-Yes

**Methodology**

Aerobic Culture

**CPT Code**

87070, 87205 (See reflex testing information)