

CP-CRE Colonization Surveillance Methods

Specimen Collection

Acceptable specimens - perirectal swab, rectal swab, or stool specimen

For perirectal swabs collection, best results are achieved if the swab is collected shortly after voiding the bowels; least successful collection occurs directly after bathing.

Specimen Processing

1. Inoculate swab into 1 mL of saline.
2. Vortex for 10 s to mix well.
3. Place 2 drops of saline onto each of the following media and streak for isolation.
 - a. KPC CHROMAGAR plate
 - b. Sheep Blood Agar (SBA) plate
4. Incubate the SBA plate at 35°C, 5% CO₂ for 18-24 h.
5. Incubate the KPC CHROMagar plate at 35°C, non-CO₂ for 18-24 h.

Culture Interpretation

1. Review the SBA plate for the presence of common GI-flora. If plate is consistent with GI-flora, this was considered a well collected specimen.
2. Review the KPC CHROMAGAR plate for the presence of pigmented colonies:

COLOR	LIKELY ORGANISMS
White	<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp., <i>Achromobacter</i> sp. <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. and Yeast
Blue	<i>Klebsiella</i> sp., <i>Citrobacter</i> sp., <i>Enterobacter</i> sp., and Yeast
Pink	<i>E. coli</i> , <i>Aeromonas</i> sp.

3. If Blue or Pink colonies are present, proceed with isolate identification.
4. If the isolate is identified as *Enterobacteriaceae*, proceed with AST.