

# Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

## *Burkholderia mallei* (Version 1)

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Specimen Type	Collection Time	Collection Frequency	Collection Procedures	Transport Media	Shipping & Handling (S&H)**
Pure culture/ Isolated colony	NA	NA	Use nutrient agar plate / slant.	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transport device:</b> See Collection Procedures.</li> <li>• <b>Transport:</b> Ship specimens at room temperature.</li> <li>• <b>Storage:</b> Room temperature.</li> </ul>
Whole blood / Serum (PCR only)	For optimal detection, ≤4 days post symptom onset		Collect into lavender-top EDTA collection tubes.	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transport device:</b> Lavender-top EDTA tube.</li> <li>• <b>Transport:</b> Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice.</li> <li>• <b>Storage:</b> Refrigerate at 2-8°C. If arriving at WAPHL ≥ 72 hrs of collection, freeze at ≤ -70°C.</li> </ul>
Sputum or bronchoscopically obtained specimens	At illness		Collect expectorated specimen into sterile transport container or collect during bronchoscopy procedure.	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transport device:</b> Sterile leak-proof container.</li> <li>• <b>Transport:</b> Ship at room temperature within 2 hrs of collection. If previously refrigerated, ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs.</li> <li>• <b>Storage:</b> Store at room temperature. If shipped 2-24 hrs after collection, refrigerate at 2-8°C.</li> </ul>
Tissue specimens (biopsies, abscess aspirates), wound swabs			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect tissue pieces (at least the size of a pea) into a sterile container, and keep moist.</li> <li>• Alternatively, submit a swab from a tissue sample in hospital transport tube with stabilizing medium (e.g. Amies charcoal).</li> </ul>	See Collection Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transport device:</b> Sterile leak-proof container or hospital transport tube as appropriate.</li> <li>• <b>Transport:</b> Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice.</li> <li>• <b>Storage:</b> Refrigerate at 2-8°C. If arriving at WAPHL ≥ 72 hrs of collection, freeze at ≤ -70°C.</li> </ul>
Urine	For optimal detection, ≥7 days post symptom		Collect > 1ml of fluid into sterile leak-proof container.	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transport device:</b> Sterile leak-proof container.</li> <li>• <b>Transport:</b> Ship at room temperature within 2 hrs of collection. If previously refrigerated, ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs.</li> <li>• <b>Storage:</b> Refrigerate at 2-8°C up to 24 hrs until culture inoculation.</li> </ul>

**General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)**

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Not refrigerated properly.
- Insufficient specimen volume.
- Leaky specimen.
- Swab on wooden shaft.
- Did not obtain LHJ or DOH CDE approval.
- Failure to follow specific S&H requirements.

**NOTE:**

Specimens will not be processed until ALL of the following information are provided on requisition form:

- Patient name, patient's county of residence, and second identifier.
- Two matching identifiers on both the tube and the laboratory requisition form.
- Specimen type, date of collection, and test requested.
- Submitter name, address, and telephone/FAX numbers.

**Collection kit availability**

Not available.

**Comments**