

Culture Collection for Peritoneal Dialysis

If your child has a touch contamination or suspected peritonitis, you will be asked to get a sample (culture) of their peritoneal fluid to test for infection. Signs of a peritonitis include abdominal (belly) pain, fever, or cloudy effluent.

You must take the sample before instilling any antibiotics in the dialysate bags. Fluid needs to be present in the peritoneal space to obtain a sample. If there is not enough fluid available for a sample, instill your child's fill volume from their PD therapy using the Ultrabag method. Let the fluid sit for at least an hour before obtaining the sample.

What supplies do I need?

- □ Specimen cu
- □ Effluent sample bag
- ☐ Sterile 4x4 gauze sponges
- □ Mini cap
- □ Masks





How do I collect the culture?

- 1. Wash your hands and gather your supplies
- 2. Expose your child's transfer set
- 3. Put a mask on and make sure everyone in the room has a mask on
- 4. Prepare the room, wash hands, and apply gloves
- 5. Remove the blue ring cap from the effluent sample bag and place it on the open sterile 4x4 gauze
- 6. Remove the white mini cap on the end of the transfer set
- 7. Connect the effluent sample bag to the end of the transfer set and open the twist cap
- 8. Collect the sample in the bag. Since this is a gravity system, make sure that the effluent sample bag is below your child's abdomen
- 9. Once the bag is about half full, close the transfer set and clamp the white clamp on the sample bag
- 10. Remove the sample bag from the transfer set and re-cap it with the blue ring cap on the sterile gauze
- 11. Place the new white mini cap on the end of the transfer set
- 12. Bring the sample to a local lab within 2 hours. If the sample is collected after hours, place it in the refrigerator and bring it to a local lab in the morning.
- 13. Follow the instructions you received from your nephrologist or dialysis nurse for the next dialysis treatment

What is the contact information for the clinic?

- Dialysis Unit Hours are Monday Saturday, 6:00am 6:30pm
- Unit Phone Number: (734) 232-7373
- PD Nurse Phone Number: (734) 232-7383 (office)
- After Hours Paging Operator: (734) 936-4000, ask for on call nephrologist or on call dialysis nurse

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