

This chart provides the test code, test name, transport medium, and transport temperature for commonly ordered microbiology tests, along with images of the available transport devices.

Before collecting a specimen, please verify the expiration date on the collection medium. Expired swabs or containers may result in specimen rejection.

All specimens must be clearly labeled with the patient's full name, date of collection, and the initials of the individual collecting the specimen.



For test not listed on this chart, please refer to the **Virtual Test Guide** or the **Quest Test Directory**, both accessible at www.dlolab.com.

The information on this chart is valid as of February 2026 and is subject to change without notice.

TEST CODE	TEST NAME	COLLECTION DEVICE(S)	TEMPERATURE
Cultures			
4550	Aerobic (Swab, Tissue)	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
4550	Aerobic (Body Fluid)	N/A Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
4469	Anaerobic (Swab, Tissue)	1 or 16	Room Temp
4469	Anaerobic (Body Fluid)	N/A Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
4446*	Anaerobic And Aerobic (Swab, Tissue)	1 or 16	Room Temp
4446	Anaerobic And Aerobic (Body Fluid)	N/A Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
389	Blood (Adult)	15	Room Temp
389	Blood (Pediatric)	15	Room Temp
16302	Campylobacter	11	Room Temp
388**	CSF	N/A Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
4477	Ear, External (Swab)	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
8631	E. Coli O157	11	Room Temp
4480	Eye (Swab)	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
4606	Fungus (Blood)	15 and Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
4553	Fungus; Not Skin, Hair Or Nail (Swab)	1 or 2 or 3	Refrigerate
4553	Fungus; Not Skin, Hair Or Nail (Tissue, Biopsy, Body Fluid)	2 or 3 or 8 or 10 or 15	Refrigerate
4605	Fungus; Skin, Hair, Or Nail Only	3 or 10	Room Temp
4558	Genital	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
90417	MRSA Culture Screen (No Sensitivities)	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
17656	MRSA PCR	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Refrigerate
4554	Mycobacteria (a.k.a Afb)(Swab)*Specimen type is suboptimal*	1 or 2 or 3	Refrigerate
4554	Mycobacteria (a.k.a Afb)(Tissue, Biopsy, Body Fluid, Sputum)	2 or 3 or 8 or 10 or 15	Refrigerate
10526	Mycobacteria (a.k.a Afb)(Blood)	15	Refrigerate
4556	Sputum/Lower Resp (Trac. Asp, Sputum, Bronch)	8	Refrigerate
8801	Staphylococcus Screen With Sensitivity	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
10019	Stool (Salmonella/Shigella Only)	11	Room Temp
32114	Stool (Salmonella/Shigella/Campylobacter/Shiga Toxin w/ reflex To 8631)	11	Room Temp
4485	Strep Group A Culture	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
10553*	Strep Group A, Antigen (Rapid Strep), Child	2 or 16	Room Temp
11479	Strep Group A, Antigen (Rapid Strep), Adult	2 or 16	Room Temp
14541	Throat Culture, special with Group A Strep Susceptibility	2 or 16	Room Temp
5617	Strep Group B	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
15090	Strep Group B With Sensitivity	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
4479	Surveillance (Environmental) (Swab) (Water)	1 or 3 or 8	Room Temp
17835	Sterilizer Check Culture	N/A Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
394*	Throat	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
395	Urine	6 or 8	Room Temp
3021	Urine, Special	6 or 8	Room Temp
Stains			
4503	Acid Fast Stain Only (Tissue, Fluid)	1 or 8	Refrigerate
497	Gram Stain (Swab, Tissue, Fluid, All Other Specimens)	1 or 2 or 3 or 6 or 8 or 16	Room Temp
497	Gram Stain (Sputum)	3 or 16	Refrigerate
8627	Fungus/KOH, Stain Only (Swab)	1 or 2 or 3 or 16	Room Temp
8627	Fungus/KOH, Stain Only (Tissue, Fluid)	2 or 3 or 8 or 10 or 16	Refrigerate
3930	Fecal Leukocyte Stain	9	Room Temp
Isolated ID & Miscellaneous			
392	Aerobic Bacterium Id	N/A Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
91664	C. Difficile Toxin (Gdh) Screen With Reflex To PCR	8 or 10	Refrigerate
16377	C. Difficile Toxin B, PCR	8 or 10	Refrigerate
11363	Chlamydia/N. Gonorrhoea MRNA,TMA (Swab)	4 and 5	Room Temp
11293	Fecal Globin, Stool (Medicare)	12	Room Temp
11290	Fecal Globin, Stool	12	Room Temp
8625	Giardia Antigen, EIA	3 or 9 or 11	Room Temp
3950	Parasite ID (Intestine)	8 and Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
3946	Parasite ID (External)	8 and Refer to Test Guide or call Customer Service	Room Temp
706	Rotavirus	8 or 10	Refrigerate
5463	Urinalysis (Complete)	7	Room Temp
3020	Urinalysis w/ reflex to Culture	6 and 7	Room Temp
681	Ova And Parasites	9	Room Temp
6653	Ova And Parasites (2 Specimen Collection Vials)	9	Room Temp
6652	Ova And Parasites (3 Specimen Collection Vials)	9	Room Temp
16492	Sureswab® (CT/NG, T Vaginalis)	4	Room Temp
16898	Sureswab® (Bacterial Vaginosis DNA)	4	Room Temp
19550	Sureswab® (Trichomonas)	4 and 5	Room Temp
11363	Sureswab® (CT/NG)	4 and 5	Room Temp
16491	Sureswab® (Vaginosis)	4	Room Temp
15509	Sureswab® (Bacterial Vaginosis)	4	Room Temp
16495	Sureswab® (Candida Albicans DNA)	4	Room Temp

*Collect two (2) Amies Gel Swabs **CSF Collection Tube (included with the lumbar puncture kit) is not provided by DLO.

Proper Phlebotomy Techniques: This chart displays the most commonly used evacuated blood collection tubes when collecting specimens sent to Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma (DLO). It includes information on the additives, the required number of inversions, and the order of draw.

Note: The order of draw and the number of inversions apply only to specimens collected in plastic tubes.

SPECIMEN MUST BE COLLECTED IN THE LISTED SEQUENCE TO PREVENT CROSS-CONTAMINATION (top to bottom)

TUBE/COLOR	ADDITIVE	INVERSIONS	VOLUME
 Clear/White	Blood Cultures	8-10	8-10mL
 Light Blue	Sodium Citrate	8-10	
 Red	No Gel, Serum (Clot Activator)	8-10	6mL
 Red/Yellow	Gel, Serum (Clot Activator)	8-10	8.5mL 3.5mL
 Green	Lithium Heparin	8-10	4.5mL
 Lavender	EDTA	8-10	4mL 10mL
 Royal Blue	(K2) EDTA	8-10	6mL
 Gray	Sodium Fluoride (Glucose)	8-10	5mL 10mL

Please ensure all tubes are correctly filled, properly inverted, and labeled.

Important Collection Instructions regarding VOLUME:
The tube must be filled to its designated volume to ensure accurate test results.
Note: When using a winged blood collection set (butterfly needle and a coagulation (light blue top/citrate) tube is the first tube to be drawn, a discard tube should be used first. This discard tube is necessary to fill the tubing's dead space with blood-to-additive ratio in the citrate tube. The discard tube must be filled with 5mL to 10mL of blood.

For all blood collection
After collection, gently invert each blood tube the required number of times as indicated to prevent clotted specimens (CBC)

For serum separator tubes only
Allow specimen to clot upright for 30 - 45 minutes
Centrifuge instructions

- Swing-head centrifuge: Spin at full speed (1100 - 1300g) for 10 minutes.
- Fixed-angle centrifuge: Spin at full speed (1100-1300g) for 15 minutes.
- Always ensure tubes are properly balanced before centrifuge.

 When applicable, use a pipette to transfer the serum into a clear transport vial. Clearly label the vial with the specimen type and two patient identifiers.

Specimen Collection Reference Chart: This chart provides the test code, test name, and required collection container for commonly ordered tests listed on the standard DLO laboratory requisition form. Some tests may require special collection or handling instructions. For tests not included on this chart, please consult the **Virtual Test Guide** or the **Quest Test Directory**, both available at www.dlolab.com

TEST CODE	TEST NAME	COLLECTION TUBE
Organ/Disease Panel		
34392	Electrolyte Panel (Na, K, Cl, CO2)	Red/Yellow
10256	Hepatic Function Panel (Alb, TBili, DBili, IBili, AP, AST, ALT, TP, GLOB)	Red/Yellow
10165	Basic Metabolic Panel w/eGFR (BUN/CREAT) (Na, K, Ca, Cl, CO2, Glu, BUN, Cr)	Red/Yellow
10231	Comp Metabolic Panel w/eGFR (B/C, GLOB, A/G) (Na, K, Ca, Cl, CO2, Glu, BUN, Cr, Ca, TP, Alb TBili, AP, AST, ALT)	Red/Yellow
7600	Lipid Panel (Fasting Specimen) (Chol/HDLC, Non HDL Chol) (TChol, Trig, HDL, Calc, LDL)	Red/Yellow
14852	Lipid Panel w/ reflex LDL (TChol, Chol/HDLC, Trig, HDL, Calc, LDL or LDL when Trig>400)	Red/Yellow
20210	Obstetric Panel w/ reflex (ABO/Rh, Antibody Scr RBC w/ reflex, CBC, RPR (DX) w/ reflex confirm, HbsAg w/ reflex Confirm, Rubella IgG Ab)	Red/Yellow & 2 Lavender
10306	Hepatitis Panel, Acute W/Reflex (Hep A IgM, HbsAg w/ reflex confirm, Hep B core Ab (IgM), HCAb w/ reflex to HCV RNA)	Red/Yellow
Hematology		
510	Hemoglobin	Lavender
509	Hematocrit	Lavender
1759	CBC (H/H, RBC, Indices, Wbc, Plt, MPV, RDW)	Lavender
6399	CBC W/Diff (H/H, Rbc, Indices, WBC, PLT, DIFF, MPV, RDW)	Lavender
8847	PT with INR	Light Blue
763	PTT, Activated	Light Blue
Other Tests		
7788	ABO Group & Rh Type	Red
223	Albumin (Alb)	Red/Yellow
234	Alkaline Phosphatase (AP)	Red/Yellow
823	ALT (SGPT)	Red/Yellow
243	Amylase	Red/Yellow
38318	ANA w/ reflex Titer	Red/Yellow
795	Antibody Scr, Rbc W/Reflex Id	Red
822	AST (SGOT)	Red/Yellow
285*	Bilirubin, Direct (DBili)	Red/Yellow
287*	Bilirubin, Total (TBili)	Red/Yellow
4420	C-Reactive Protein	Red/Yellow
29256	CA 125	Red/Yellow
303	Calcium (Ca)	Red/Yellow
310	Carbon Dioxide (CO2)	Red/Yellow
10124	Cardio CRP	Red/Yellow
978*	CEA	Red/Yellow
330	Chloride (Cl)	Red/Yellow
334	Cholesterol, Total (TChol)	Red/Yellow
375	Creatinine (Cr) w/ eGFR	Red/Yellow
418	Digoxin	Red
8293	Direct LDL	Red/Yellow
457	Ferritin	Red/Yellow
466*	Folic Acid	Red/Yellow
470	FSH	Red/Yellow
482	GGT	Red/Yellow

TEST CODE	TEST NAME	COLLECTION TUBE
Other Tests		
8477	Glucose, GEST, Scr	Gray
484	Glucose Plasma	Gray
483	Glucose, Serum (Glu)	Red/Yellow
8435	HCG, Serum, Qual	Red/Yellow
8396	HCG, Serum, Quant	Red/Yellow
608	HDL	Red/Yellow
496	Hemoglobin A1c	Lavender
512	Hep A Ab, IgM	Red/Yellow
4848	Hep B Core Ab, IgM	Red/Yellow
499	Hep B Surface Ab Qual	Red/Yellow
498	Hep B Surface Ag W/Reflex Confirm	Red/Yellow
8472	Hep C Virus Antibody w/ Reflex RNA, PCR	Red/Yellow
91431	HIV 1/2 Ag/Ab 4th Gen	Red/Yellow
561*	Insulin	Red/Yellow
7573	Iron (Tot), IBC % Sat	Red/Yellow
571	Iron, Total	Red/Yellow
593	LDH	Red/Yellow
599	Lead (B)	Royal Blue
615	LH	Red/Yellow
613	Lithium	Red
622	Magnesium	Red/Yellow
713	Phenytoin	Red
718	Phosphorus	Red/Yellow
733	Potassium (K+)	Red/Yellow
745	Progesterone	Red/Yellow
746	Prolactin	Red/Yellow
754	Protein, Total (TP)	Red/Yellow
5363	PSA, Total	Red/Yellow
4418	Rheumatoid Factor	Red/Yellow
799	RPR (Monitoring) w/ reflex Titer	Red/Yellow
36126	RPR (Dx) w/ reflex Confirm FTA	Red/Yellow
802	Rubella IGG AB	Red/Yellow
809	Sed Rate By Mod West	Lavender
873	Testosterone Total Male (Adult) Immunoassy	Red
15983	Testosterone Total Women / Pediatrics	Red
896	Triglycerides (Trig)	Red/Yellow
899	TSH	Red/Yellow
36127	TSH w/ reflex T-4, Free	Red/Yellow
859	T-3, Total	Red/Yellow
861	T-3 Uptake	Red/Yellow
867	T-4 (Thyroxine), Total	Red/Yellow
866	T-4 (Thyroxine), Free	Red/Yellow
294	Urea Nitrogen (Bun)	Red/Yellow
905	Uric Acid	Red/Yellow
916	Valproic Acid	Red
7065*	Vitamin B12 / Folic Acid	Red/Yellow
927	Vitamin B12	Red/Yellow
17306	Vitamin D, 25-OH, Total, Immunoassay	Red/Yellow

* Indicates specimen must be refrigerated and/or protected from light