

Subject: New blood culture media

Starting on Tues July 15th 2014, the clinical microbiology laboratory will switch to a new automated blood culture system (known as Becton Dickinson BACTEC FX system) for detection of bacteria and fungi in blood. The new system utilizes resin in the media (BACTEC Plus Aerobic/F and Plus Anaerobic) to remove antibiotics from the blood culture solution, thereby facilitating more rapid detection of non-fastidious bacteremia (Clin Infect Dis 2013:56).

The new blood culture kits or bottles will be available on the floors. There will not be any changes in EPIC ordering of routine blood cultures.

For detection of fungi (yeast and filamentous mold) in blood and bone marrow, we will be switching from fungal isolator to direct inoculation of Myco/F Lytic Culture Vials. This media is also used for isolation of mycobacteria.

Blue top (Plus Aerobic)

Gold top (Plus Anaerobic)



Red top (Myco/F Lytic)



For additional question, please contact the medical director of the Clinical Microbiology laboratory at NiazBanaei@stanford.edu.