



Document number: BC-MAN-INS-002.UN

Version:1.3

CSF Collection Instructions (Adults)

Copy No. 1

Site Location: UN

The CSF collection pack can be obtained from:

- QE Gateshead: Pathology stores during ROUTINE working hours or biochemistry out of hours
- CHS & STDGH: Biochemistry dept. reception

Note – This protocol should not be used for paediatric patients

ALWAYS PHONE THE MICROBIOLOGY LAB IN GATESHEAD to alert them you are sending a specimen for urgent microscopy (Sunderland users phone 445 6645; Gateshead & S. Tyneside phone 445 5601)

ALWAYS TAKE THESE TUBES: CSF tubes 1-4 & blood tube 6

WHEN SAH SUSPECTED & XANTHOCHROMIA REQUESTED:

Request only if CT -ve and > 12 hours after onset of symptoms. Take following additional tubes:

- *CSF tube 5* (use mini-collect tube, fill to 1 mL and place inside brown envelope)
- *Blood sample 7*

PLEASE NOTE: CSF infection can reduce the positive predictive value of Xanthochromia analysis, which may lead to inconclusive, equivocal, or falsely positive results.








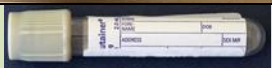
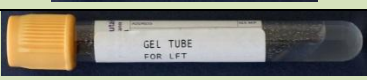
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Sample	Container		Volume	Test
CSF Sample 1	Universal for Microbiology		1.5 ml (30 drops)	Microbiology
CSF Sample 2	Fluoride oxalate: for Biochemistry		0.5 mL (10 drops)	Glucose & protein
CSF Sample 3	Universal for Microbiology		1.5 mL (30 drops)	Microbiology
CSF sample 4	Universal for Microbiology		1.5 mL (30 drops)	Microbiology
CSF Sample 5	Mini collect tube plus brown envelope.		1.0 mL (20 drops)	Xanthochromia ONLY if ?SAH Fill to arrow
Blood Sample 6	Fluoride oxalate for Biochemistry		3 mL	Glucose
Blood Sample 7	Yellow top for Biochemistry		4 mL	LFT ONLY if ?SAH

Place all mini collect tube inside brown envelope and place with all other CSF and blood samples in the specimen bag provided along with the correct ICE forms/MediTech labels.

DO NOT USE PNEUMATIC TUBE SYSTEM → hand-deliver to pathology reception ASAP

All the samples must be hand delivered to a member staff within the laboratory department within ½ an hour of sample collection.

Failure to follow this procedure may result in a possible delay in analysis or rejection



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← 5 ml mark



**UNIVERSAL TUBE: fill up
to the top of the conical
base, this is equivalent
to 1.5 ml**