

# Collection & Shipping Instructions for Wound Pathogens: PCR & Culture



Please follow the instructions below to accurately complete the requisition. For additional assistance, please call 903.805.9955.

## Step 1: Advanta Genetics Requisition

The requisition can be pre-populated with most of the patient's information (by Technician/Nurse Staff/Front office staff).  
**Please verify it is correct, and make any necessary changes.**

**If using online orders, please complete all necessary/required fields. To complete the paper requisition form:**

Enter Date Collected and Patient Signature on the requisition. This is REQUIRED INFORMATION.

1. Physician's Name, Date of Collection, Patient's Name, Gender, DOB, & DOI (Date of Injury – if applicable/Workers' Comp)
2. Diagnosis Code (ICD-10): Primary - Chief Complaint, Secondary - Supplemental Diagnosis
3. Patient's Signature & Date
4. Drug Allergies
5. Insurance Information
6. Panel Selection
7. Sample Information: Specific Anatomical Location of Wound (i.e. left knee)
8. Physician's Signature

## Step 2: Wound Pathogens Specimen Collection and Preparation for PCR ONLY

**To ensure safety and validity of the sample, it is important to follow the instructions provided below:**

1. Remove sterile swab from collection kit being careful not to contaminate the tip.
2. Follow one of the sample collection methods below based upon the type of wound:
  - **Decubitus ulcer:** roll the sterile swab directly across the affected area until saturated. Proceed to step 3.
  - **Abscess with skin intact:**
    - a. Use sterile needle/syringe to aspirate approximately 1mL of purulent material
    - b. Eject aspirated material into sterile collection cup
    - c. Roll sterile swab in collection cup to saturate swab. Proceed to step 3.
  - **Abscess with open skin/sinus tract:**
    - a. Wipe skin around opening with 70% ethanol or equivalent
    - b. Roll sterile swab with purulent material within abscess/sinus and ensure it is saturated. Proceed to step 3.
3. Place swab in the sterile specimen collection cup.
4. Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and recap the cup (with the swab remaining in the tube).
5. Label the transport cup with two patient identifiers (first and last name, DOB).
6. Place the transport cup into the provided specimen bag with supporting documentation.
7. Samples can be sent at room temperature.

*The collection process is now complete and ready for shipping.*

## Step 3: Wound Specimen Collection For Culture ONLY

1. Culture samples will require a gel swab (do not use a dry swab).
2. Peel open sterile pack.
3. Remove plug from tube.
4. Remove swab, and gently apply to wound.
  - **Decubitus ulcer:** roll the sterile swab directly across the affected area until saturated. Proceed to step 3.
  - **Abscess with skin intact:**
    - a. Use sterile needle/syringe to aspirate approximately 1mL of purulent material
    - b. Eject aspirated material into sterile collection cup
    - c. Roll sterile swab in collection cup to saturate swab. Proceed to step 3.
  - **Abscess with open skin/sinus tract:**
    - a. Wipe skin around opening with 70% ethanol or equivalent
    - b. Roll sterile swab with purulent material within abscess/sinus and ensure it is saturated. Proceed to step 3.
5. Insert swab with wound sample into tube, and seal with plug.
6. Record patient's name (first and last) and DOB on tube.
7. Place tube into provided specimen bag with supporting documentation.
8. Samples can be sent at room temperature.

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## Step 4: Ship the Specimen to Advanta Genetics

1. Please deliver within 24 hours of collection.
2. Place sealed specimen bags into a UPS/FedEx Clinical Pack included in your kit, if shipping.
3. Place UPS/FedEx Clinical Pack into UPS/FedEx Clinical Box, if shipping.
4. Separate label from backing and place on the UPS/FedEx box, if shipping.
5. Call UPS/FedEx to schedule your pickup (if UPS/FedEx is not already coordinated with clinic). **If local account, please contact lab for courier pick-up: 903.805.9955.**

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Advanta Genetics  
10935 CR 159, Tyler, TX 75703

Phone: 903.805.9955  
Fax: 903.839.2494

CLIA #: 45D2063134  
[www.aalabs.com](http://www.aalabs.com)