



**GUAM PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY GUIDELINES
 SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS FOR
 CARBAPENEM-RESISTANT ISOLATE SUBMISSION**

<p>Case Definition</p>	<p>A microbiological specimen, preserved culture, and isolate in participation for Carbapenem-resistant Isolate Submission must be vetted by the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), and will determine eligibility indicated for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Acinetobacter spp.</i> resistant to imipenem, meropenem, or doripenem by standard susceptibility testing methods, with minimum inhibitory concentration of ≥ 8 ug/mL. • <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> or resistant to imipenem, meropenem, or doripenem by standard susceptibility testing methods, with minimum inhibitory concentration of ≥ 8 ug/mL AND non-susceptible or resistant to ceftazidime or cefepime with minimum inhibitory concentrations of ≥ 16 ug/mL. • <i>Escherichia coli</i>, <i>Klebsiella spp.</i>, and <i>Enterobacter spp.</i> that are resistant to imipenem, meropenem, doripenem, or ertapenem by standards susceptibility testing methods, with minimum inhibitory concentrations of ≥ 4 ug/mL for doripenem, imipenem, or meropenem or ≥ 2 ug/mL for ertapenem. • For more information on other tests available, https://doh.wa.gov/public-health-healthcare-providers/public-health-laboratories/arln-lab-test-menu
<p>Specimen Submission Guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call the DPHSS at 671-689-3942 before collecting and sending microbiological isolate in participation for Carbapenem-resistant Isolate Submission. • NO SPECIMEN WILL BE ACCEPTED AT GPHL WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION. • Handling and Shipping will be provided by GPHL and/or reference laboratory and must be labeled with patient's name or Identification (ID) number, specimen ID number and date of collection. • Specimens and Isolates for transport to the GPHL must be placed in a sealed biohazard transport bag and placed in a sealed, decontaminated primary sterile container. • Specimens and isolates should be packaged and transported within the facility without attempting to open transport container. Wrap specimens and isolates with absorbent material and place in a sealable specimen biohazard transport bag and into a secondary leak-proof secondary receptacle. • Fill out COMPLETELY the Guam Public Health Laboratory (GPHL) submission form and the Washington State DOH Laboratory form. • Once specimens ready for transport, call the GPHL 671-300-9082 or 671-300-9085 to inform staff of the specimen/isolate delivery.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specimen/isolate will be sent to WA State DOH Laboratory. • Physician/providers will be notified of the result by the GPLH authorized personnel once the final result is received from the reference laboratory.
Specimen Requirements	<p>TRANSPORT CONDITIONS: less than or equal to 72 hours at room/ambient temperature, isolate placed in slant.</p> <p>FOR MORE INFORMATION: https://doh.wa.gov/public-health-healthcare-providers/public-health-laboratories/arln-lab-test-menu</p>
Safety Precautions Infection Control for Collecting and Handling Specimens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow established standards compliant with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bloodborne Pathogen Standard. This includes wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and adhering to engineered safeguards, for all specimens regardless of whether they are identified as infectious. <p>For specimen collection, recommend to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use full face shield or goggles, mask to cover all of nose and mouth, gloves, fluid resistant or impermeable gowns. Additional PPE may be required in certain situations. • Transport specimens to GPLH. Specimens must be placed in a sealed, decontaminated primary container, which is then placed in a sealed biohazard transport bag. • All disposable wastes (PPE) used for collection and processing should be autoclaved.
Specimen Transport Guidelines	<p>Transport specimens at room/ambient temperature within 24-72 hours.</p> <p>Deliver specimens to the GPLH no later than 4 PM, Mondays-Fridays.</p>
Rejection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specimen/isolate sent to the GPLH without prior consultation and notice. • Specimen/isolate is non-AR Lab Network approved samples; • Specimen/isolate in contaminated media; • Specimen/isolate not packed as described in Specimen Submission guidelines • Specimen is not received at room temperature; • Unlabeled specimens, incomplete label on specimen (Refer to Specimen Submission Guidelines). • Illegible/ incomplete Submission form (e.g., no date of onset, clinical description, etc.) • Specimen label does not match the Submission form.
Result Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory reports will be forwarded to the Submitting Facility, Territory Epidemiologist, and the BCDC Administrator via FAX. • Any other request for copies of laboratory reports, apart from that stipulated above will not be accepted.

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Contact Information	Alan Mallari, Microbiologist III, GPHL (671) 300-9080 or (671) 300-9081 alan.mallari@dphss.guam.gov Ma Lourdes Toledo, Microbiologist II, GPHL (Alternate) (671) 300-9080, FAX (671) 300-9081 malourdes.toledo@dphss.guam.gov Anne Marie Santos, Central Laboratory Administrator, GPHL (671) 300-9082 or (671) 300-9085 annemarie.santos@dphss.guam.gov
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Attachments:

1. Specimen Submission Form, DPHSS GPHL Form 8/25/2023
2. Specimen/Isolate Submission Form, WA State DOH Lab Form Revised 6/8/2021

References:

<https://doh.wa.gov/public-health-healthcare-providers/public-health-laboratories/arln-lab-test-menu>