



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE  
**DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Test Title	<i>Bacillus anthracis</i> (Anthrax)
<b>Sample Requirements</b>	1. Specimen type: See Table 1 below for full listing of specimen types, requirements, special instructions and rejection criteria.
<b>Sampling Materials</b>	1. Sample container: See Table 1 below.
<b>Procedural Notes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <a href="#">Clinical Test Request Form</a> for submitting clinical samples</li><li>2. <a href="#">Biological Threat Food/Environmental Test Request Form</a> for submitting food, water or environmental samples</li><li>3. For all samples suspected of containing a biological threat agent, contact the IBL Microbiology Section <u>before</u> sample collection and/or submission. TEL: 208-334-2235</li><li>4. See Table 1 below for sample-specific procedural notes.</li><li>5. Refer to ASM Sentinel Laboratory Guidelines for further information: <a href="http://www.asm.org/index.php/guidelines/sentinel-guidelines">www.asm.org/index.php/guidelines/sentinel-guidelines</a>.</li></ol>
<b>Shipping Instructions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Temperature/preservative instructions: Transport at room temperature.</li><li>2. Package and ship according to Biological Substance, Category B shipping guidelines.</li><li>3. Ship to: Idaho Bureau of Laboratories <b>ATTN: LRN-B Laboratory</b> 2220 Old Penitentiary Rd Boise, ID 83712</li></ol>
<b>Reporting and Turnaround Time (TAT)</b>	1. TAT: 1-5 business days

Table 1. *Bacillus anthracis* Sampling Guidelines

Sample type	Sampling materials	Sample collection	Procedural notes	Sample rejection criteria
Cutaneous	Sterile Dacron (nylon) swabs; Sterile, non-glass, leak-proof, container (i.e., sterile, 15 ml centrifuge tube with screw cap)	Collect fluid from beneath roof of vesicle or eschar using sterile swab. Place directly into sterile container.		Unlabeled or improperly packaged specimens that are leaking or otherwise compromised
Stool	Sterile, non-glass, leak-proof, container	Collect ≥ 5 g of stool into transport container.	Only for suspected gastrointestinal cases	
Blood	Appropriate blood culture bottle, both aerobic and anaerobic	Collect directly into blood culture bottle.		
Sputum/CSF	Sterile, non-glass, leak-proof, container	As per standard procedures for submitter's facility	Suspected inhalational exposures	
Postmortem tissue	Sterile, non-glass, leak-proof, container	Tissue pieces should be kept moist once collected.	Transport within 1 hour of collection.	
Clinical isolates	Slant with non-selective media such as trypticase soy agar or chocolate agar	Inoculate slant with a single, isolated colony.	Organisms submitted for rule out testing should have been first screened using ASM Sentinel Laboratory Guidelines.	
Food, water, or environmental	Contact Idaho Bureau of Laboratories <u>before</u> sample collection or submission.			