

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

NEW TEST TEST CHANGE

NOTIFICATION DATE: 06/15/2026

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/22/2026



Culture, Bone Marrow (C BM)

On the effective date, Northwell Health Laboratories will transition the bone marrow culture collection tube from SPS tubes to Lithium Heparin tubes.

Bone marrow cultures are routinely collected in SPS tubes; however, these tubes are being discontinued. The laboratory has validated the lithium heparin tube as a replacement.

Both tubes will remain in operation until the existing supply of SPS inventory is depleted.

Please note there will be no change in the processing of these samples.

Test Requirement/Parameters	New	Current
Method	Culture	Culture
Specimen Requirements	Bone Marrow	Bone Marrow
Submission Container/Tube	BD Vacutainer Lithium Heparin (6ml or 10ml) 	BD SPS tube (6ml) 
Specimen Volume	Optimal collection volume is 3.0-5.0 ml	Optimal collection volume is 3.0-5.0 ml
Specimen Stability	Delivered to laboratory as soon as possible at room temperature	Delivered to laboratory as soon as possible at room temperature
Reference Range	Culture NEGATIVE	Culture NEGATIVE
Result Reporting	Final reports issued after 5 days	Final reports issued after 5 days
Computer Interface Code	PDM # 6201340	PDM # 6201340
Test Code	C BM	C BM
EPIC Test Name	Bone Marrow Culture	Bone Marrow Culture



If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at (800) 472-5757.