

NICD GERMS-SA case definitions for isolate submission to Reference Laboratories for 2025 (Level 1_v25)

GERMS-SA laboratory surveillance: **ALL** laboratories, please submit the following bacterial or fungal pathogens to the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) on Dorset transport medium with a TrakCareLab/ private laboratory report. Alternatively, send specimen tube/blood culture bottle if uncertain of identification and/or no isolate cultured (please contact NICD reference lab before sending).

For Schistosoma and Soil-transmitted helminths surveillance: samples should be sent to the Parasitology Reference Laboratory (PRL), NICD as soon as possible, without any additives, using the NREF test code on TrakCare or a tracking form. Ensure sample container is well-sealed and has the TrakCare episode number on it.

Cryptococcus spp. isolates or specimens do not need to be sent, but enhanced surveillance laboratories should notify Surveillance Officers of any cases year-round.

Pathogen	Specimen	Lab tests	NICD Centre
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> <i>Haemophilus</i> spp. <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Group A streptococcus (<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>) Group B streptococcus (<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>)	All normally-sterile site specimens, e.g. CSF, blood, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid, joint fluid, tissue, etc. In addition, for <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> include also non-sterile body site specimen obtained from patient with intrauterine sepsis (uterine tissue, endocervical tissue/fallopian tubes/placenta/ products of conception/ foetus.)	Culture positive OR Consistent Gram stain OR Latex positive For GAS and GBS culture and /PCR positive	CRDM 011 555 0315
<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> * <i>Salmonella</i> Typhi <i>Salmonella enterica</i> serotype Paratyphi (A, B and C) Nontyphoidal <i>Salmonella</i> spp. <i>Shigella</i> spp. <i>Listeria</i> spp. Diarrhoeagenic <i>E. coli</i> (from rectal swab/ stool only)	Any specimen	Culture positive	CED 011 555 0333
† CRE Enterobacterales isolates (e.g. <i>Klebsiella</i> spp., <i>Enterobacter</i> spp., <i>Citrobacter</i> spp., <i>Serratia</i> spp., <i>E. coli</i> , <i>Providentia</i> spp., <i>Proteus</i> spp. and <i>Salmonella</i> spp.) This excludes: Imipenem resistant <i>Proteus</i> spp., <i>Providencia</i> spp., and <i>Morganella morganii</i> , but remain susceptible to the other carbapenems (meropenem and ertapenem). † All <i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> complex (<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> , <i>Enterobacter asburiae</i> , <i>Enterobacter hormaechei</i> , <i>Enterobacter kobei</i> , <i>Enterobacter ludwigii</i> and <i>Enterobacter nimipressuralis</i>) 01 November 2024 - 31 May 2025	Blood culture	Enterobacterales culture positive AND non-susceptible (i.e. intermediate or resistant) to any of the carbapenems: ertapenem, meropenem, imipenem and/or doripenem. Enterobacter cloacae complex culture positive irrespective of the susceptibility pattern.	CHARM - AMRL 011 555 0342/44

To order a new batch of Dorset transport media, please call Linda De Gouveia 011 555 0315/ 0317/ 0321/ 0327/ happys@nicd.ac.za / dineom@nicd.ac.za

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†† <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> (Free State only) 1 January 2025 – 30 June 2025	All normally-sterile site specimens, e.g. CSF, blood culture, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid, joint fluid, tissue, etc.	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> cultured isolate with ANY susceptibility profile.	CHARM - AMRL 011 555 0342/44
‡ <i>Schistosoma</i> species (Limpopo and Mpumalanga only) ‡ Soil-transmitted helminths (<i>Ascaris lumbricoides</i>, <i>Trichuris trichiura</i>, hookworm species [<i>Necator americanus</i>, <i>Ancylostoma duodenale</i>] and <i>Strongyloides stercoralis</i>)	Urine or stool specimen positive for <i>Schistosoma</i> species Any stool or other specimen positive for soil-transmitted helminths (<i>Ascaris lumbricoides</i>, <i>Trichuris trichiura</i>, hookworm species [<i>Necator americanus</i>, <i>Ancylostoma duodenale</i>] and <i>Strongyloides stercoralis</i>)	Ova observed on microscopy Ova, larvae and/or adult worms of <i>Ascaris lumbricoides</i>, <i>Trichuris trichiura</i>, hookworm species or <i>Strongyloides stercoralis</i> on micro- or macroscopy	CEZPD - PRL 011 555 0311/04

**Vibrio cholerae* isolates from human and non-human (environmental) specimens.

CRDM = Centre for Respiratory Diseases and Meningitis, **CED** = Centre for Enteric Diseases, **CHARM** = Centre for Healthcare-Associated Infections, Antimicrobial Resistance and Mycoses, **AMRL** = Antimicrobial Resistance Laboratory, **CEZPD** = Centre for Emerging Zoonotic and Parasitic Diseases, **PRL** = Parasitology Reference Laboratory.

† LARS sites: **EC**: Livingstone Hospital; Dora Nginza Hospital; **FS**: Universitas/ Pelonomi; **GP**: Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic, Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic, Helen Joseph/ Rahima Moosa, Dr. George Mukhari and Steve Biko Pretoria Academic; **KZN**: Greys', Northdale/ Edendale (HARRY GWALA), Inkosi Albert Luthuli/ King Edward Hospital, Addington and RK Khan; **WC**: Groote Schuur, Red cross Children's Hospital and Tygerberg.

†† Hypervirulent *Klebsiella* project: **FS**: Universitas, Pelonomi and National district.

‡ **LP**: Polokwane Hospital including labs referring to this site., **MP**: Rob Ferreira Hospital including labs referring to this site.

There's no need to send *Cryptococcus* spp. isolates or specimens; however, we kindly request that enhanced surveillance laboratories notify the Surveillance Officers of any cases throughout the year.

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