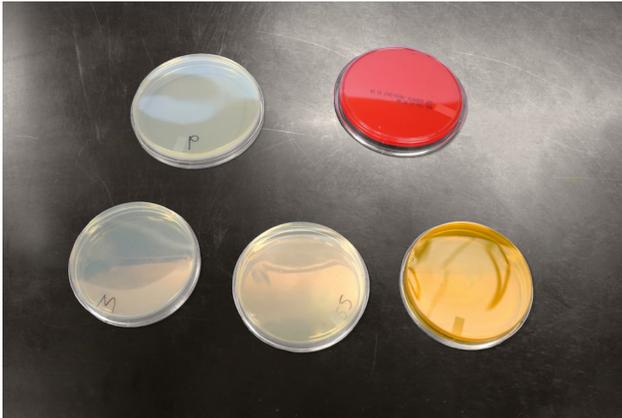


Guide for Submitting Samples for Fungal Cultures



TVMDL sets up all fungal cases, including dermatophytes suspects, on multiple types of fungal culture media in order to optimize isolation.



DO SUBMIT: Fresh tissue biopsy in red top tube or similar sterile container - **NOT** floating in saline or broth.



DO SUBMIT: Hair plucked from the periphery of the skin lesion and submit in a clean or sterile container not a bacterial culturette.



If the patient does not have discrete areas of alopecia, a toothbrush that has been brushed over the patient's body, can be submitted.



Whenever possible, submit the actual clinical specimen, as DTM plates, jars, or slants, are often non-diagnostic.



Bacterial culturette swabs select for bacteria and make isolating fungal organisms more difficult.

Include pertinent history, including any anti-fungal treatment or pathology results, on the TVMDL Submission Form. Ship samples at ambient temperature. Fungal cultures can take up to 21 days as some organisms are slow growing.