



# Hygienic Laboratory

*The University of Iowa*

## ***Legionella Culture/DFA/PCR\****

### **Submission Requirements**

- Appropriate patient specimens include:
  - Sputum-either expectorated or suctioned\*
  - Tracheal Aspirates\*
  - Bronchoscopy specimens\*
  - Biopsy specimens
  - Pericardial, peritoneal, or pleural fluid
  - Lung tissue from autopsy
    - All other specimens: call 319/335-4335 for consultation before submission.
    - Label container with patient's name or unique identifier and the date of collection.
    - UNLABELED SPECIMENS WILL NOT BE TESTED.**
    - A completed Bacteriology Test Request Form must accompany specimen.

\*PCR will only be performed on sputum, tracheal aspirates, and bronchoscopy specimens

### **Specimen Collection and Handling**

- Collect specimen in a sterile container.
- For tissue or biopsy specimens add a small amount of sterile, non-bacteriostatic distilled water to prevent desiccation. DO NOT ADD SALINE, as it may be inhibitory.
- Refrigerate until shipped.
- Wrap specimen container in absorbent material, and place into a biohazard bag.

### **Complete Test Request Form**

- A Bacteriology Test Request Form must be filled out completely. Testing is dependent upon this information; therefore, results may be delayed if information is not provided.

### **Shipping Instructions**

- Include completed Bacteriology Test Request Form in outside pocket of biohazard bag.
- Ship at 4°C using ice packs. **DO NOT USE WET ICE.** Shipping should take place so that receipt of the specimen at UHL is no longer than 24 hours from time of collection. If transport to the laboratory cannot be accomplished within 24 hours, call 319/335-4335.
- SEND TO UHL at Oakdale Campus in Iowa City (See address below).**
- Ship multiple specimens in packaging compliant with USPS or IATA regulations.

### **Contact Information**

- For test request forms: 319/335-4466
- For additional forms, go to <http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/kitsquotesforms>
- For *Legionella* questions: 319/335-4335