

Annex 3

Laboratory Procedure

For Collection and Culturing of Wound Swabs:

From Surgical Site: Recognize that most wounds require some kind of pretreatment to lower the possibility of introducing foreign organisms into the specimen that is being collected. Irrigate the wound with sterile saline until all visible debris has been removed if there is moderate to substantial pus or leakage. Before cultivating pressure sores (chronically present wounds), clear the wound surface of any loose, sloughed-off necrotic material. Surface-only cultures might be deceptive; biopsies of deeper tissue are advised. Use an iodine solution or 70% alcohol to disinfect the wound's surface. To reveal the culture site and absorb extra saline, use sterile gauze pads. Always cultivate the granulation tissue's highly vascularized regions. To allow the swab to be inserted deeply into the wound cavity while wearing sterile gloves, divide the edges of deep wounds with your thumb and forefinger. The swab should be rotated and pressed over the clean wound surfaces many times to extract tissue fluid that may contain the infection. Steer clear of contacting the swab's edges with intact skin. Put the swab in the proper transit container right away. (Fischbach, 2004).