

Title	Neisseria meningitidis isolate
Specimen Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specimen type: Pure viable culture on appropriate agar medium (chocolate/GC agar/Thayer-Martin) slant. 2. One isolate per patient. 3. ISDH Communicable Disease Rule 410-IAC 1-2.3-76 requires submission of these invasive (sterile site) isolates within (3) business days of isolation. 4. Temperature requirement: Ambient conditions.
Sampling Materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sample Container: Appropriate agar medium slant in tube (chocolate/GC medium/Thayer-Martin) with screw-cap tightened or other similarly approved commercial transport medium. 2. Shipping boxes/containers with appropriate shipping labels, commercially available.
Procedural Notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be sure to properly label the culture tube with the patient's name and date of isolation. 2. Check the expiration date on the tube to ensure the product is acceptable and will continue to be acceptable once received at the ISDH laboratory. 3. Category B UN3373, Triple contained in accordance with federal shipping regulations for infectious agents. 4. Complete a Reference Bacteriology Culture Identification request form for each specimen with the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Patient name, address, age, gender, onset, physician name, and diagnosis. b. Culture isolation source, date isolated, date submitted, organism suspected. c. Submitting facility information-clinic name, address, phone number, fax number, contact name, and email address (if available). d. Relevant comments which may include patient history or travel history. 5. Isolate Handling: Infectious agent, Biosafety level 2. 6. Contact ISDH Epidemiology SID 317-234-2807 if necessary.
Shipping Instructions	<p>Ship To: Indiana State Department of Health Laboratories 550 West 16th Street Indianapolis, IN. 46202</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Package according to Category B UN3373 triple contained in accordance with federal shipping regulations for infectious substances/diagnostic specimens. 2. Tighten the specimen container tube caps. 3. Label clearly on each specimen tube with the patient name and isolation date. 4. Wrap each labeled, primary/specimen container tube with absorbent material. Place each primary container tube with absorbent material into the inner mailing container and tighten the cap securely. 5. The completed submission/request form may then be wrapped around the sealed inner container and together placed securely into the outer shipping container. 6. Clearly label the outer container with the senders name/address and recipients name/address. 7. Do not send culture isolates on petri plates if submitting by mail. 8. Transport Temperature: Ambient conditions.
Reporting and TAT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reporting Method: Fax, phone, email, or Mail. 2. TAT: 3-16 business days. 3. Test Referral: Isolates may be forwarded to the CDC for additional testing.