



Definition of normally sterile sites for submission of clinical isolates to the New Jersey Public Health and Environmental Laboratories

A normally sterile site is defined as:

- blood
- bone and bone marrow
- cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)
- internal body sites
 - specimen obtained from surgery or aspirate from one of the following: brain, heart, liver, lymph node, spleen, vitreous fluid, kidney, pancreas, ovary
- joint fluid
 - includes synovial fluid and needle aspirate or culture of any specific joint: knee, ankle, elbow, hip, wrist
- muscle
- pericardial fluid
- peritoneal fluid
 - includes abdominal fluid, ascites
- pleural fluid
 - includes chest fluid, thoracentesis fluid

For further information or clarification, call the Infectious & Zoonotic Disease Program during business hours at 609-826-5964.