

Provider Update: New Specimen Source Available for Culture, Aerobes Only, Other w/ Gram Stain (LAB897) – VAD Driveline Exit Site

Beginning December 11, 2025, the Duke Clinical Microbiology Laboratory will include “**VAD Driveline Exit Site**” as a selectable specimen source when ordering “Culture, Aerobes Only, Other w/ Gram Stain” (LAB897) for patients with ventricular assist device requiring culture.

Culture, Aerobes Only, Other w Gram Stain

Priority: Routine

Frequency: Once Early AM DC Pend

At: 12/11/2025 0000

Specimen Source:

Title	Number
VAD Driveline Exit Site	2669
Abscess	1
Other	28
Wound	39



Collection Requirement:

After cleansing the exit site, collect the specimen using a **WHITE Top ESwab (SAP#353663)**.

For questions regarding this update, please contact Alexis Jaramillo Cartagena, PhD aj459@duke.edu or Diana Alame, MD diana.alame@duke.edu