

TruCulture® Instructions for Use

Before starting to work with TruCulture, read the extended version of the TruCulture Instructions for Use. Follow standard blood draw procedures and blood borne pathogen safety guidelines as recommended by the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

The following procedure can be viewed at

<https://myriadrbm.com/products-services/truculture/truculture-video/>

Do not store TruCulture tubes near dry ice after arrival.

TruCulture media shifting to yellow upon thawing indicates tube damage. Discard such tubes and report to the manufacturer.

1. Thaw (at 37°C max.) just as many TruCulture tubes as are required for this day of the trial. Do not use tubes to draw blood that have not reached at least room temperature. After thawing, the tubes cannot be refrozen and should be discarded if blood is not drawn within 24 hours.
2. Label the TruCulture tubes accordingly, e.g.: Patient ID, sample #, date and time of phlebotomy / start of culture.
3. **Before starting to draw blood**, press the plunger into the TruCulture tube until it stops.
4. Use a „Multifly“ (butterfly) needle system and connect its adaptor to the front end of an empty Monovette syringe and lock it by turning clockwise.
5. Puncture the vein, ensure the cannula position is safe and the blood flows easily. Draw just enough blood to fill the tubing system of the butterfly set completely (picture 1).
6. **Now open the tourniquet immediately.** Otherwise this may result in overfilling due to the overpressure in the vein.

When other blood tubes are to be drawn with the same phlebotomy, make sure that the TruCulture tubes are always the **FIRST** to be filled with blood.



Picture 1

7. Starting the cultures

Replace the empty Monovette syringe with the first TruCulture tube. Hold the tube front down / plunger up to draw the blood.

NEVER TRY TO INJECT the contents of TruCulture tubes.

Fill it slowly with blood by pulling the plunger gradually until it snaps into its final position (with a gentle “click”), then **wait for at least 5 seconds** until the blood volume shows no further increase.

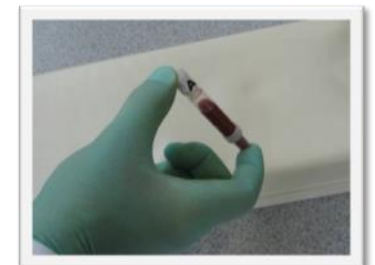
Break away the plunger close to the rear end of the TruCulture tube (picture 2).



Picture 2

8. Disconnect the TruCulture tube from the butterfly adaptor and **gently** mix the tube contents by inverting 3 times end over end; **avoid foaming** (picture 3).

Remove any blood remaining in the tube-cap by gently tapping the TruCulture tube on the bench top.



Picture 3

9. Place the tube with cap pointing up in a pre-heated block thermostat at 37°C (picture 4).

Do not fill more than 4 TruCulture tubes using the same cannula. For more tubes use a new Multifly set and puncture another vein.

10. Remove the needle from the vein and halt the bleeding appropriately.

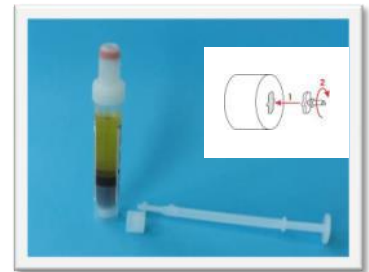


Picture 4

11. Incubate all TruCultures at 37°C (allowed range 36,7-37,3°C) in the block thermostat for a defined period of time, usually 24 or 48 h. Any deviations should be noted. As such, it is strongly recommended that the exact time of culture initiation (i.e. the time of the blood draw) be recorded on each of the tubes.

12. **Stopping the cultures**

Assemble the „seraplas filters“ (valve separators). Insert the sticks with their small „nose“ into the little slot of the separator and lock them with a clockwise turn (picture 5).



Picture 5

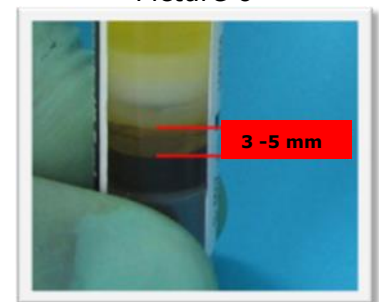
13. Carefully remove the TruCulture tube from the incubator – avoid shaking. Remove the screw cap from the tube and slowly insert the valve separator until it is 3 to 5 mm (1/8" to 1/4") above the sediment level.



Picture 6

It is important to keep the TruCulture tube in an upright position during this whole procedure (pictures 6 and 7).

In case of any agitation of the sediments: centrifuge the tubes at 400-500 g for 10 min using a centrifuge with the brake off.



Picture 7

14. Disconnect and remove the sticks from the separators with a gentle counter-clockwise turn; the valve separator stays in the TruCulture tube (picture 8).



Picture 8

Finally, close the TruCulture tube hand-tight with the screw cap again. Freeze the TruCulture tubes immediately at -20 °C, in an upright position (alternatively aliquots of the supernatants). If being shipped for analysis, ship the tubes or aliquots on dry ice.

TruCulture tubes that after blood collection shall be given to a third party, other than Myriad RBM, for analysis or other reasons, have to be adequately labeled before they change owner. Their labels must contain the following information:

Contains human blood - Content is potentially infectious

In case of any questions please contact

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