<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TEST</strong></th>
<th>Blood C/S (Aerobic and Anaerobic – ARD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SYNONYM/S</strong></td>
<td>Blood Culture and Sensitivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAB SECTION</strong></td>
<td>Bacteriology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AVAILABILITY</strong></td>
<td>Daily (24 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **TURN AROUND TIME (TAT) (upon receipt of the laboratory)** | 48 hours (Aerobic)  
72 hours (Anaerobic)  
7 days (final report negative culture) |
| **PATIENT PREPARATION** | As per doctor’s recommendation |
| **SPECIMEN**      | Blood                                  |
| **VOLUME OF SPECIMEN** | Amount of blood should be proportional to the medium as indicated in the blood culture bottle. |
| **CONTAINER**     | Blood Culture bottles (Aerobic and Anaerobic)  
Pediatric blood culture bottle (Aerobic) |
| **CAUSES OF REJECTION** | Specimen collected in appropriate sterile container.  
Specimen quantity is not sufficient for analysis.  
Specimen not properly identified  
Contamination  
Broken, damaged or leaking bottle  
**Note:** The physician or nursing station will be notified if an unacceptable specimen is received. Another specimen will be requested before the specimen is discarded. |
| **COLLECTION AND TRANSPORT** | Collection: Aseptic technique  
Transport as soon as possible within 2 hours in ambient temperature. **Do not refrigerate.**  
Clean the tip of the bottle using an alcohol pad if cultures become soiled during collection |
| **NORMAL VALUE**  | Initial report:  
Aerobic – No growth after 48 hours of incubation.  
Anaerobic – No growth after 72 hours of incubation.  
Final report – No growth after 7 days. |
| **LIMITATIONS**   | A single negative culture does not rule out infection.  
Skin preparation prior to collection is critical to avoid contamination with skin flora.  
Yeast often is isolated from routine blood cultures. However, if yeast or fungi are suspected, a separate fungal culture should be drawn.  
Previous antimicrobial therapy may delay the growth of organisms.  
Patients suspected of having brucellosis, tularemia, leptospirosis, AFB, viruses or cell wall deficient bacteria must be indicated on the request. These organisms cannot grow in basic media and require special processing into specially supplemented media. |
| **METHODOLOGY**   | Fluorescence/Colorimetric Method        |