

PATHOLOGY SCIENCES CSF ALGORITHM

The following table describes the requirements, labelling and delivery locations/methods for CSF samples

Pot No	Department	Container	Test	Transport	Bag
1	Microbiology	White top universal container	Virology (if required) or storage	Pod	Blue bag
2	Chemistry	White top universal container	Protein OCB(if required) please provide serum sample	Pod	Red bag
3	Microbiology	White top universal container	MC&S (meningitis)	Pod	Blue bag
4	Chemistry	Grey fluoride tube	Glucose/Lactate	Pod	Red bag
5 (if required)	Chemistry	White top universal container	Xanthochromia (if required) in protected tube	Pod	Red bag
6 (if required)	Neuropathology*	White top universal container	Cytology if required	Pod	Clear bag

*Neuropathology CSF specimens need to be processed within 48 hours of being taken.

If a specimen is dropped off at Blood Science reception within the hours of 8am - 5pm during the week, please redirect them to the Neuropathology reception entrance next to the loading bay. The sample can be dropped off at the Cellular Pathology reception window.

If neuropathology samples are received out of hours, store the sample in a fridge overnight and inform neuropathology the next weekday morning. Call 42400 or email Neuropathologysecretaries@nbt.nhs.uk to inform them where the CSF is located so that it can be collected.