

Normally Sterile Sites: Invasive Bacterial Diseases

The following list is provided to assist you in determining if a specimen was obtained from a normally sterile site.

A **normally sterile** site is defined as:

- Blood
- Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)
- Pleural fluid
 - Chest fluid
 - Thoracentesis fluid
- Peritoneal fluid
 - Abdominal fluid
 - Ascites
- Pericardial fluid
- Bone
 - Bone marrow
- Joint fluid
 - Synovial fluid
 - Fluid, needle aspirate, or culture of any specific joint:
 - Knee
 - Ankle
 - Elbow
 - Hip
 - Wrist
- Internal body sites
 - Specimen obtained from surgery or aspirate from one of the following:
 - Lymph node
 - Brain
 - Heart
 - Liver
 - Spleen
 - Vitreous fluid
 - Kidney
 - Pancreas
 - Ovary
 - Vascular tissue
 - Muscle

Reference: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/invbacterial/sterile.html>