Specimen Required: Collect: Body fluid, tissue, Lavender (EDTA), Pink (K<sub>2</sub>EDTA), or pure isolate of Candida species on potato dextrose agar (PDA), sabouraud dextrose agar, sheep blood agar, chocolate agar, or inhibitory mold agar.

Specimen Preparation: Body Fluid: Transfer 1 mL body fluid to a sterile container. (Min: 0.5 mL)
Whole Blood: Transfer 2 mL whole blood to a sterile container. (Min: 1 mL)
Tissue: Transfer to a sterile container and freeze immediately.
Isolate: Transport sealed container with pure isolate on solid media. Place each specimen in an individually sealed bag.
Storage/Transport Temperature: Body Fluid or Tissue: Frozen.
Isolate or Whole Blood: Refrigerated.
Remarks: Specimen source required.

Unacceptable Conditions: Plasma, serum, mixed cultures or isolates other than suspected Candida species. Isolates with no visible colonies. Isolates plated on CHROMagar chromogenic culture media.

Stability (collection to initiation of testing): Body Fluid: Ambient: 2 weeks; Refrigerated: 2 weeks; Frozen: 2 weeks
Whole Blood: Ambient: 1 week; Refrigerated: 1 week; Frozen: 1 week
Tissue: Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: Unacceptable; Frozen: 2 weeks
Isolate: Ambient: 1 week; Refrigerated: 2 weeks; Frozen: Unacceptable