

Chapter 6

Collection and Transport of Specimens

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Ocular samples should be obtained in all cases suspected with fungal infections. Samples should be collected aseptically to avoid microbial contamination. Methodology and the preferred clinical sample should be selected according to clinical diagnosis¹. Specimens used for diagnosis of ocular fungal infections are listed in the table 6.1.

Table 6.1: Specimens used for diagnosis of ocular fungal infections. *

Infection	Specimen Type
Orbital lesions	Biopsy specimens Purulent material aspirated Serum for serological investigations
Blepharitis and eyelid lesions	Cotton swabs Lid biopsy samples
Dacryoadenitis	Lacrimal gland biopsy samples
Dacryocanaliculitis	Purulent material
Dacryocystitis	Lacrimal sac material
Conjunctivitis	Scrabbed lesion Conjunctival biopsy specimen
Keratitis	Swabs of lid and conjunctiva Corneal scrapes Biopsy specimens
Contact lens-associated keratitis	Contact lenses, lens cases, and lens solution

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