



July 2024

BD BACTEC™ Blood Culture Vial Supply FAQ

What is the cause of the BD BACTEC™ Media shortage?

We are experiencing reduced availability of plastic vials from our supplier that we expected to be temporary in nature. After investigation and analysis, we determined the issues are more complex than the supplier originally communicated, and their manufacturing issues are limiting our ability to supply BD BACTEC™ blood culture vials to meet full global demand.

When will the supply improve?

Based on actions currently deployed at our supplier and the temporary sourcing of glass bottles for BD BACTEC™ Lytic/10 Anaerobic/F Culture Vials, we expect to realize improvements in supply in September 2024.

How much allocation will I receive until supply improves?

Because of the complexities associated with our manufacturing and shipping process, we cannot provide universal guidance on allocation that would be accurate for all labs. Please contact your BD Account Executive for the latest and most accurate information about your open orders.

Are other BD products affected by this plastic vial shortage?

These plastic vials are only used in the production of BD BACTEC™ blood culture media and do not impact production of other BD products. Please see list of impacted products below.

SKU	Product Name
442023	BD BACTEC™ Plus Aerobic/F Culture Vials
442021	BD BACTEC™ Lytic/10 Anaerobic/F Culture Vials
442020	BD BACTEC™ Peds Plus™/F Culture Vials
442022	BD BACTEC™ Plus Anaerobic/F Culture Vials
442024	BD BACTEC™ Standard Anaerobic/F Culture Vials
442027	BD BACTEC™ Standard/10 Aerobic/F Culture Vials
442794	BD BACTEC™ Myco/F Lytic Culture Vials

Is BD bringing back glass vials?

Yes. As an additional mitigation measure, we are launching the BD BACTEC™ Lytic/10 Anaerobic/F Culture Vials (442265) in glass in select countries (including the United States) with availability expected in the first week of September. This was a product we previously discontinued but are now reintroducing to improve the overall supply of media while we work with our supplier to resolve their plastic vial challenges. Please see the “Resources” tab at BDBACTEC-update.com for more information.

Why is BD only manufacturing lytic anaerobic media in glass?

Based on our current manufacturing capabilities, we can most quickly launch the BD BACTEC™ Lytic Anaerobic media in glass (442265). Other media types require more specialized manufacturing processes which would take longer to deploy and given the urgent nature of the current supply situation we are looking to expedite product availability. By re-launching BD BACTEC™ Lytic Anaerobic media in glass (442265), we expect to improve overall quantities of all products including our BD BACTEC™ Plus Aerobic media (442023) and BD BACTEC™ Peds Plus media (442020).

What is different about the BD BACTEC™ Lytic Anaerobic Media in glass?

Although the glass vial is a different SKU (442265), there are no changes in the intended use of the product when compared to plastic. The glass vial is slightly taller but otherwise has the same dimensions to fit into BD BACTEC™ instruments. BD BACTEC™ instruments can run both plastic and glass vials simultaneously with no software configurations necessary. Users will have to consider the implications of glass vial when using their pneumatic tube system. BD offers a bottle holder (SKU 445771) to help protect glass vials during transport. For a copy of the IFU, please see the “Resources” tab on BDBACTEC-update.com.

Are there plans to launch other media types in glass?

There are no plans to launch other media types in glass as we expect this to be a short-term measure while we resolve the issues with our plastic vial supplier. We will return to 100% plastic vials at the earliest opportunity based on consistent supply of plastic vials from our supplier. We will provide clear timelines as they become available. Please check BDBACTEC-update.com for the latest information.

Do we need to perform verification for glass vials?

As a manufacturer, we cannot make recommendations on the need for verification and instead would defer to your laboratory’s specific Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). For additional questions regarding verification requirements please contact CMS at labexcellence@cms.hhs.gov. For our suggested verification protocols, please visit the “Resources” tab at BDBACTEC-update.com.

Considering the shortage in plastic, is BD going to continue manufacturing BD BACTEC™ Myco F Lytic in glass?

Yes, we will continue BD BACTEC™ Myco F Lytic in glass until we have consistent supply of plastic vials from our vendor.

Who is my BD Account Executive and how do I reach them for additional information?

Please use the “Contact Us” form at [BDBACTEC-update.com](https://www.bd.com/BDBACTEC-update.com) and we will route your question to the appropriate BD representative.

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