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ICS 11.020
CCS C50

WS

INDUSTRY STANDARD OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

WS/T 640-2018

Standard for specimen collection and transport in clinical microbiology

临床微生物学检验样本的采集和转运

(English Translation)

Issued on: May 25, 2026 **Implemented on: November 1, 2026**

Issued by: National Health Commission

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https://chinastandards.org/standards/ws-t-640-2018

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1 Foreword

WS/T 640-2018 was issued by National Health Commission on 25 May 2026 and has been in force since 1 November 2026.

The WS/T prefix marks a recommended standard. It is not law in itself: it becomes binding when a contract names it, when a regulation or a mandatory standard refers to it, or when a producer declares conformity with it.

The document runs to 13 pages in English translation.

2 Scope Preview

This standard specifies requirements for clinical microbiology (bacteriology, mycology, and virology)....technical requirements for the collection and transport of test specimens. This standard applies to clinical microbiology testing conducted by clinical laboratories in medical institutions.

WS/T 640-2018 falls under ICS 11.020, in the field of health care technology.

This catalogue holds 489 other WS/T standards in that field.

In this catalogue, WS/T standards carry edition years from 1996 to 2026.

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3 About this standard

Sector: Health Industry Standard (Recommended)

Issued by: National Health Commission

English translation: about 13 pages (approximate)

Chinese original: about 20,211 characters

4 Related standards

Other editions:

WS/T 640-2026 (later edition)

Standards on related subjects:

GB/T 26368-2020 - Hygienic requirements for iodine disinfectants

GB/T 26367-2020 - Hygienic requirements for biguanides disinfectants

GB/T 20468-2006 - General for internal quality control for quantitative measurements in clinical laboratory

WS/T 645.1-2026 - Reference intervals for common clinical immunological tests - Part 1: Serum immunoglobulin G, immunoglobulin A, immunoglobulin M, complement 3, complement 4

WS/T 641-2026 - Internal quality control standard for quantitative measurement in clinical laboratory

5 Classification and status

International classification (ICS): 11.020

Chinese Standard Classification (CCS): C 50

Prefix WS/T: recommended standard.

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