

Test Menu

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
Test Name	TB Culture (solid culture on LJ and liquid culture by BACTEC MGIT 960)
Other Name (s)	AFB Culture
Analyte(s)	N/A
Test Code	3100
Lab location	Jacksonville location
Department	Mycobacteriology (TB)
Pre-Approval Required	No
Required Forms	BPHL Requisition, DH 1847 (Not needed if ordered via WebLIMS)
Specimen Source	Sputum or bronchoalveolar lavage, stool, urine, CSF, tissue, and any source not listed under Unsatisfactory Specimen.
Supplemental Information- Special Specimen Preparation	> 5 ml of unprocessed specimen or 0.5 - 1 ml of processed specimen in 50 ml sterile conical tube, shipped in double container. Gastric Lavage specimens must be neutralized with 100 mg of sodium carbonate if the time between collection and processing exceeds 4 hours.
Minimum Volume	> 5 ml of unprocessed specimen or 0.5 - 1 ml of processed specimen
Storage Conditions	Blood must be stored and shipped at room temperature. Specimens other than blood should be stored refrigerated until shipped.
Transport Medium	Not applicable
Specimen Labeling	Must have two unique patient identifiers, preferably patient name, and date of birth. Specimens not labeled with patient name will be rejected.
Packaging and Shipping Instructions and Handling	Specimens can be shipped within the 2-28°C temperature range, except for urine specimens, which must be shipped refrigerated (2 - 8°C). Processed urine sediments may be shipped within the 2-28°C temperature range and must be clearly marked on the requisition as "Processed". Separation of specimens to prevent cross-contamination.
Test Methodology	AFB Culture with liquid and solid media
Turnaround Time	6 weeks
Result Indicator	Positive: All positive cultures will be stained for AFB and identified by PRA, or <i>hsp65</i> DNA Sequencing. Negative: No AFB Cultured. Contaminated: Both solid and liquid cultures contaminated.
Unsatisfactory Specimen	Formalin fixed or paraffin-embedded tissues. No patient identification on specimen. No specimen observed in specimen tube, specimen damaged or leaked entirely in transit. Blood specimens collected into EDTA tubes or containing coagulated blood are unacceptable. Gastric aspirates that have not been neutralized. Urine specimens arriving outside of acceptable temperature range.
Interferences and Limitations	Heavy bacterial contamination of primary specimen may lead to contamination of both liquid and solid media cultures.
Additional Information & Notes	Cultures positive for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> complex (MTBC) will be reflexed to GeneXpert, Deeplex and Drug Susceptibility Testing if from new patient or 60 days since previous DST results. All specimens other than blood will have AFB Smear performed.
Reference Range	No AFB Cultured
Reference Lab	CDC
Reflex testing	Identification of any acid-fast bacilli that grow in either the liquid or solid media.

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