

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 aerosol lavage (5 ml minimum), stool, urine, and any source. Processed specimens are acceptable.
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. Specimens other than blood should be stored refrigerated until shipped. Blood must be stored and shipped at room temperature. Urine must be shipped refrigerated (2 - 8°C), or it will be rejected. Processed urine specimens may be shipped within the 2-28°C temperature range. All other specimens may be shipped within the 2-28°C temperature range or cold, using a cold pack.
Minimum Volume	> 5 ml of unprocessed specimen or 0.5 - 1 ml of processed specimen
Storage Conditions	See above in Supplemental information.
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	Shipment temperature – see supplemental information, 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, DNA Probe and/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 are not acceptable. Urine specimens arriving outside of acceptable temperature range are not acceptable.
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, Hain test 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.