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**Reporting Title:** Pneumocystis PCR**Performing Location:** Rochester**Additional Testing Requirements:**

This test should always be performed in conjunction with fungal culture; order FGEN / Fungal Culture, Routine.

**Shipping Instructions:**

Specimen must arrive within 7 days of collection; specimens older than 7 days will be rejected.

**Necessary Information:**

Specimen source is required.

**Specimen Requirements:**

The high sensitivity of amplification by polymerase chain reaction requires the specimen to be processed in an environment in which contamination of the specimen by *Pneumocystis* species DNA is unlikely.

**Preferred Specimens:** Pleural, respiratory (eg, bronchoalveolar lavage [BAL], bronchial washing, sputum), or fresh tissue

**Acceptable Specimens:** If no fresh specimen is available, digested respiratory specimens treated with N-acetyl-L-cysteine-sodium hydroxide (NALC/NaOH) are acceptable (eg, BAL, bronchial washing, respiratory fluid, sputum, or tracheal secretion)

**Submit only 1 of the following specimens:****Preferred**

**Specimen Type:** Body fluid

**Sources:** Pleural

**Container/Tube:** Sterile container

**Specimen Volume:** 1 mL

**Additional Information:** Only fresh, non-NALC/NaOH-digested body fluid is acceptable.

**Specimen Type:** Respiratory

**Sources:** BAL, bronchial washing, tracheal secretions, or sputum

**Container/Tube:** Sterile container

**Specimen Volume:** 1 mL if only PCR ordered or 3 mL if PCR ordered with smear and culture

**Specimen Type:** Tissue

**Sources:** Respiratory

**Container/Tube:** Sterile container

**Specimen Volume:** 5-10 mm

**Collection Instructions:**

1. Submit fresh tissue.
2. Keep tissue moist with sterile water or sterile saline

**Acceptable**

**Specimen Type:** NALC/NaOH-digested respiratory specimens  
**Sources:** BAL, bronchial washing, respiratory fluid, sputum, or tracheal secretion  
**Container/Tube:** Sterile container  
**Specimen Volume:** 2 mL  
**Collection Instructions:**  
1. Submit digested specimen treated with NALC/NaOH.  
2. Clearly indicate on container and order form that specimen is a digested specimen.

**Forms:**  
If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a [Microbiology Test Request](#) (T244) with the specimen.

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Varies	Refrigerated (preferred)	7 days	
	Frozen	7 days	

Ask at Order Entry (AOE) Questions:

Test ID	Question ID	Description	Type	Reportable
PNRP	SRC63	Specimen Source	Plain Text	Yes

Result Codes:

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
SRC63	Specimen Source	Alphanumeric		31208-2
81698	Pneumocystis PCR, Result	Alphanumeric		89996-3
24188	Special Information	Alphanumeric		48767-8
24189	Report Status	Alphanumeric		No LOINC Needed

LOINC® and CPT codes are provided by the performing laboratory.

**Supplemental Report:**  
No

**CPT Code Information:**  
87798

**Reference Values:**  
Not applicable