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**Reporting Title:** M tuberculosis Complex PCR**Performing Location:** Rochester**Additional Testing Requirements:**

This test must always be performed in conjunction with mycobacterial culture. If your facility is unable to perform mycobacterial culture, order CTB / Mycobacteria and *Nocardia* Culture, Varies concurrently with this test.

**Shipping Instructions:**

**Specimen must arrive within 7 days of collection; if greater than 7 days of collection, the specimen will be rejected.**

**Necessary Information:**

**Specimen source is required.**

**Specimen Requirements:**

The high sensitivity of amplification by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) requires the specimen to be processed in an environment in which contamination of the specimen by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* DNA is unlikely.

If a single specimen is being shared between mycobacteria culture, acid-fast smear, and/or *M tuberculosis* PCR, a minimum volume of 2 mL for body fluid, 3 mL for respiratory specimen, or a pea-sized piece of tissue should be obtained. Specimen volumes less than indicated may decrease sensitivity of testing. If insufficient volume is submitted, test or tests will be canceled.

**Preferred Specimens:** Body fluid, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), ocular fluid, respiratory (eg, bronchoalveolar lavage [BAL], bronchial washing, sputum), feces, fresh tissue, bone, bone marrow, or urine

**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), as are NALC/NaOH-treated gastric washings.

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

**Specimen Type:** Body fluid

**Sources:** Body, bone marrow aspirate, ocular, or CSF

**Container/Tube:** Sterile container

**Specimen Volume:** 1 mL

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

**Specimen Type:** Gastric washing

**Container/Tube:** Sterile container

**Specimen Volume:** 2 mL

**Collection Instructions:** Neutralize specimen within 4 hours of collection with 20 mg of sodium carbonate per 2 mL of gastric washing.

**Specimen Type:** Respiratory

**Sources:** BAL, bronchial washing, 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:** Feces  
**Container/Tube:** Sterile container  
**Specimen Volume:** 5-10 g  
**Additional Information:** Only fresh, non-NALC/NaOH-digested fecal specimens are acceptable.

**Specimen Type:** Tissue  
**Sources:** Fresh tissue, bone, or bone marrow biopsy  
**Container/Tube:** Sterile container  
**Specimen Volume:** 5-10 mm  
**Collection Instructions:** Keep moist with sterile water or sterile saline  
**Additional Information:** Only fresh, non-NALC/NaOH-digested tissue is acceptable.

**Specimen Type:** Urine  
**Container/Tube:** Sterile container  
**Specimen Volume:** 1 mL  
**Collection Instructions:** Collect a random urine specimen.

**Acceptable**  
**Specimen Type:** NALC/NaOH-digested respiratory specimens  
**Sources:** Lavage fluid, bronchial washing, gastric 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
MTBRP	SRC62	MTB Complex PCR, Specimen Source	Plain Text	Yes

Result Codes:

# Test Definition: MTBRP

Mycobacterium tuberculosis Complex,  
Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
SRC62	MTB Complex PCR, Specimen Source	Alphanumeric		31208-2
56044	MTB Complex PCR, Result	Alphanumeric		38379-4

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

Supplemental Report:

No

CPT Code Information:

87556-*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, complex, molecular detection, PCR  
87015-Mycobacteria culture, concentration (if appropriate)

Reflex Tests:

Test Id	Reporting Name	CPT Units	CPT Code	Always Performed	Available Separately
TBT	Concentration, Mycobacteria	1	87015	No	No, ( Bill Only)

Reference Values:

Not applicable