MAYO CLINIC LABORATORIES

Test Definition: FVAG

Fungal Culture, Vaginal

Overview

Useful For

Monitoring therapy for vulvovaginitis

Managing chronic recurring disease

Determining the etiology of infectious vaginitis when other tests have been uninformative

Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
D2F	D2 Fungal Sequencing Identification	No, (Bill Only)	No
FUNA	Fungal Ident Panel A	No, (Bill Only)	No
FUNB	Fungal Ident Panel B	No, (Bill Only)	No
RMALF	Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Fungi	No, (Bill Only)	No
RMALY	Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Yeast	No, (Bill Only)	No
ITSF	ITS Fungal Sequencing	No, (Bill Only)	No

Testing Algorithm

When this test is ordered, the reflex tests may be performed at an additional charge.

Method Name

Plated to Inhibitory Mold Agar

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Varies

Shipping Instructions

Specimen should arrive within 24 hours of collection.

Necessary Information

Specimen source is (anatomic body site) required.

Specimen Required

Specimen Type: Swab

Source: Vaginal secretions

Container/Tube: Culture transport swab (noncharcoal)

Collection Instructions:

1. Before collecting specimen, wipe away any excessive amount of secretion and discharge.
2. Obtain secretions from the mucosal membrane of the vaginal vault with a sterile swab.
3. If smear and culture are requested or both a bacterial culture and fungal culture are requested, collect a second swab to maximize test sensitivity.

Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a Microbiology Test Request (T244) with the specimen.

Specimen Minimum Volume

See Specimen Required

Reject Due To

Viral transport media (including but not limited to M4, M5, BD viral transport media, thioglycolate broth)	Reject
Petri dish	Reject
Aptima swabs	Reject

Specimen Stability Information

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

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Candidal vulvovaginitis is believed to be the most frequent or second most frequent vaginal infection. Depending on the geographical area, its prevalence in women is estimated to be in the range of 5% to 20%. Besides *Candida albicans*, *Candida glabrata,* and *Candida tropicalis* are the most frequently isolated *Candida* species both from vulvovaginitis patients and from healthy carriers.

Reference Values
Negative

If positive, yeast will be identified.

Interpretation
Meaningful diagnosis of vaginal candidiasis requires that yeast are demonstrable in the affected area and clinical symptoms and signs are consistent with the disease. Since in up to 20% of healthy women, yeast cells are part of the normal vaginal flora, the presence of *Candida* on culture may be meaningless or misleading unless other clinical factors are considered.

Clinical Reference
1. Abdallah M, Augenbraun MH, McCormack W. Vulvovaginitis and cervicitis. In: Mandell GL, Bennett JE, Dolin R, eds. Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases. 9th ed. Elsevier; 2020:1462-1476
2. Ashbee HR. General approaches for direction detection and identification of fungi. In: Carroll KC, Pfaller MA, Landry ML, et al, eds. Manual of Clinical Microbiology. 12th ed. Vol 1. ASM Press; 2019:2035-2055

Performance

Method Description
Specimens are plated on inhibitory mold agar that contains chloramphenicol to inhibit bacterial contamination. Cultures are incubated at 30 degrees C for 3 days. Identification of *Candida* species is accomplished by a variety of physiological, biochemical, or molecular tests.(Berkow EL, McGowan KL. Specimen collection, transport, and processing: Mycology. In: Carroll KC, Pfaller MA, Landry ML, et al, eds. Manual of Clinical Microbiology. 12th ed. Vol 1. ASM Press; 2019:2016-2024)

PDF Report
No

Day(s) Performed
Monday through Sunday

Report Available
3 to 4 days

Specimen Retention Time
Raw specimen discarded after 2 days

Performing Laboratory Location
Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

Fees & Codes

Fees

- Authorized users can sign in to Test Prices for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their account representative. For assistance, contact Customer Service.

Test Classification

This test has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

CPT Code Information

87102-Fungal culture, vaginal
87106-Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Yeast (if appropriate)
87107-Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Fungi (if appropriate)
87107-Fungal identification panel A (if appropriate)
87107-Fungal identification panel B (if appropriate)
87153-D2 fungal sequencing identification (if appropriate)
87153-ITS Fungal Sequencing (if appropriate)

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
FVAG	Fungal Culture, Vaginal	51723-5

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
FVAG	Fungal Culture, Vaginal	51723-5