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**Reporting Title:** Acanthamoeba species Detection, PCR**Performing Location:** Rochester**Ordering Guidance:**

Although verification experiments did not detect Acanthamoeba species DNA in contact lenses from asymptomatic adults, it is possible that the polymerase chain reaction may detect asymptomatic colonization/contamination and, therefore, testing should not be performed on asymptomatic individuals.

**Necessary Information:**

Specimen source is required.

**Specimen Requirements:**

The preferred specimen for this test is corneal scraping or biopsy.

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

Specimen Type: Tissue, fresh

Sources: Ocular

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 5-10 mm

Collection Instructions: Submit tissue in a sterile container with 1 mL of sterile saline, minimal essential media (MEM), or viral transport media.

Preferred Paraffin-embedded tissue block:

Supplies: Tissue Block Container (T553)

Specimen Type: Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue block (FFPE)

Sources: Ocular

Container/Tube: Tissue block

Collection Instructions: Submit a FFPE tissue block to be cut and returned.

Acceptable Paraffin-embedded tissue block:

Specimen Type: Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue block (FFPE)

Sources: Ocular

Container/Tube: Sterile container for each individual cut section (scroll).

Collection Instructions: Perform microtomy and prepare five separate 10-micron sections. Each section (scroll) must be placed in a separate sterile container for submission.

Specimen Type: Scrapings, swabs

Sources: Eye, ocular, cornea

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Collect corneal scrapings using a scalpel or other sharp device to remove the outer layer of cells from the eye.
2. Swish the collection device in 1 mL of sterile saline, minimal essential media (MEM), or viral transport media.
3. Remove the collection device from the collection container before submitting to the lab.

4. Specimens containing scalpel blades will be canceled.

Additional Information: Swabs are not the preferred specimen for this test and may yield false-negative results. Specimens collected using wooden shafted swabs and calcium alginate-tipped swabs will be canceled.

Specimen Type: Contact lenses

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: Entire collection

Collection Instructions:

1. Place entire contact lens in a sterile container with 1 mL sterile saline, viral transport media, or minimal essential media (MEM).
2. Right and left lenses must be submitted individually using multiple sterile containers or in the original contact lens case. Multiple orders must be created.
3. Indicate Right or Left in the specimen source.

Specimen Type: Contact lens cases without lenses

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 1 mL solution or entire case

Additional Information:

1. Depending on the type of case submitted, it may be necessary to test right and left chambers individually. Multiple orders must be created.
2. Indicate Right or Left in the specimen source.

### Specimen Minimum Volume:

Scrapings: 0.5 mL

Other specimen types: See Specimen Required

### 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
ACARP	SRCAS	Specimen Source	Plain Text	Yes

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**Result Codes:**

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
SRCAS	Specimen Source	Alphanumeric		31208-2
38058	Acanthamoeba species PCR	Alphanumeric		41429-2

LOINC and CPT codes are provided by the performing laboratory.

**Supplemental Report:**

No

**CPT Code Information:**

87798

**Reference Values:**

Negative