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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.

**Specimen Minimum Volume:**

Body fluid or nondigested respiratory specimen: 0.5 mL; Fresh tissue: 5 mm; NALC-NaOH-digested specimen: 1 mL

**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