



Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Mycobacterium tuberculosis and Mycobacterium avium Detection by Real Time PCR

Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: M. tuberculosis infection is a notifiable condition. If you have not already done so, please report suspect or confirmed cases to the Maine CDC via the disease reporting line: 1-800-821-5821 (24hrs/day 7 days/week).
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: Specimens that are AFB positive or specimens from suspect M. tuberculosis cases must be submitted.
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: Patient name, date of birth, date of collection, specimen source, submitter name and contact information.• Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name, DOB or other unique identifier, and be accompanied by a completed HETL requisition form.
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preliminary analysis: Respiratory specimens including expectorated and induced sputum, bronchial and tracheal aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) and bronchial washings. Collect in a sterile, leak proof container (i.e. 50 mL conical Falcon tube).• Standard analysis: Pure AFB culture grown in liquid (MGIT) or on solid media (Lowenstein-Jensen).
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For Preliminary analysis: Samples should arrive at the laboratory within 3 days of collection.• For Standard analysis: Samples should arrive at the laboratory after AFB is detected in/on media.• Store specimens at 2 to 8 °C until ready for shipping. Specimens should be submitted to lab as soon as possible. Ship specimens on frozen cold packs.
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results should be expected within 1-3 business days of specimen receipt.
Rejection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specimens received without a requisition form, clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze. Specimens in poorly labeled, unlabeled, or leaking containers. Specimens transported at incorrect temperature
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PCR results report as M. tuberculosis complex DNA DETECTED, M. tuberculosis complex DNA NOT Detected, INCONCLUSIVE for M. tuberculosis complex DNA, INDETERMINATE for M. tuberculosis complex DNA, and/or M. avium complex DNA DETECTED, M. avium complex DNA NOT Detected, INCONCLUSIVE, M. avium complex DNA, INDETERMINATE for M. avium complex DNA, or, NEGATIVE Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PCR: \$110 (Fee waived if testing is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC/TB Control)
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 87556
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact Mycobacteriology and Rabies Department at 207-287-1706• Contact TB Control/Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821