

**TEST CHANGE**

**Legionella Species, Culture**

0060113, MC LEGION

**Specimen Requirements:**

**Patient Preparation:**

**Collect:**

Respiratory specimens: Abscess material, aspirates, BAL, fluids, secretions, sputum, or tissue; OR pericardial fluid or blood in [a blood culture bottle](#). [SPS Vacutainer tube for microbiology \(ARUP supply #24964\)](#). Available online through [eSupply using ARUP Connect\(TM\)](#) or contact ARUP Client Services at 800-522-2787.

**Specimen Preparation:**

**Fluids, respiratory Fluid:** Transfer to a sterile container. Place each specimen in an individually sealed bag. (Min. 0.5 mL) **Tissue:** Place on gauze moistened with sterile sterile container.  
**Blood:** Transport blood in [a blood culture bottle filled according to manufacturer's recommendations](#). [SPS tube](#).

**Transport Temperature:**

Refrigerated. If delay in transport (greater than 48 hours), freeze at -60C or lower and transport on dry ice. [Do not refrigerate or freeze blood culture bottles](#).

**Unacceptable Conditions:**

Stool, urine, wounds, or other nonrespiratory sites. Dry specimens. Specimens in preservatives or viral transport medium (M4, UTM).

**Remarks:**

Specimen source preferred.

**Stability:**

Ambient: 2 hours; Refrigerated: 48 hours; Frozen: 1 week  
[Whole Blood culture bottles:](#) Ambient [48-2](#) hours; Refrigerated: [unacceptable48 hours](#); Frozen: [u](#)Unacceptable

**Methodology:**

Qualitative Culture

**Note:**

Amplified DNA testing (PCR) is also available for respiratory specimens. Refer to Legionella Species by Qualitative PCR (ARUP test code 2010125). Legionella pneumophila DFA (ARUP test code 2004598) is also available.

[An additional processing fee will be billed for all blood samples in blood culture bottles.](#)

**CPT Codes:**

87081; Identification CPT codes may vary based on method

**New York DOH Approval Status:**

This test is New York DOH approved.

**Interpretive Data:**

**Reference Interval:**

[Culture negative for Legionella species.](#)

Deleted Cells



*A nonprofit enterprise of the University of Utah  
and its Department of Pathology*

Effective Date:

