

TEST CHANGE

Fungal Culture

0060149, MC FUNG

Specimen Requirements:

Patient Preparation:

Collect: Material or fluid from any body site, except blood.

Specimen Preparation: Fluids: Transport 3 mL fluid in a sterile container. (Min: 1 mL).
Material: Transfer to sterile container.

Transport Temperature: A single specimen may be cultured for both bacteria and fungi. Place each specimen in an individually sealed bag.
Specimens from a sterile body site (fluids, tissues, etc.): Room temperature.
Cutaneous specimens (skin, hair, nails): Room temperature.
Specimens from other nonsterile sites (respiratory, GI tract, etc.): Refrigerated.

Unacceptable Conditions: Blood, catheter tips.
[Specimens submitted on slides.](#)

Remarks: Additional information required: Specimen source.

Notify laboratory if *Malassezia furfur* is suspected; special media must be used for the cultivation of this yeast.

Stability: CSF: Ambient: 48 hours; Refrigerated: Unacceptable; Frozen: Unacceptable
Skin, hair, or nail specimens: Ambient: 2 weeks; Refrigerated: Unacceptable
Frozen: Unacceptable
All other specimens: Ambient: 72 hours; Refrigerated: 1 week; Frozen: Unacceptable

Methodology: Culture

Note:

Identification is performed on any fungus recovered from a significant body site. Limited identification performed from nonsterile sites. Identification of molds and/or yeasts on positives is billed separately from culture.

Ground tissue will be tested with a disclaimer. There is decreased sensitivity on ground tissue specimens for some fungi, including *Mucorales* species.

A minimum of 1 mL of fluid is recommended for recovery of fungus. Volumes less than 1 mL may compromise recovery of fungus from culture and will be tested with a suboptimal disclaimer.

Antifungal susceptibility testing is performed on molds only by

request and requires organism identification.

CPT Codes: 87102; CPT codes for identification vary based on method.

New York DOH Approval Status: This test is New York DOH approved.

Interpretive Data:

Reference Interval:
