

## Overview

### Useful For

Monitoring therapy for vulvovaginitis

Managing chronic recurring disease

Determining the etiology of infectious vaginitis when other tests have been uninformative

### Testing Algorithm

When this test is ordered, the reflex tests may be performed at an additional charge.

### Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
D2F	D2 Fungal Sequencing Identification	No, (Bill Only)	No
FUNA	Fungal Ident Panel A	No, (Bill Only)	No
FUNB	Fungal Ident Panel B	No, (Bill Only)	No
LCCI	Ident Rapid PCR Coccidioides	No, (Bill Only)	No
LCHB	Id, Histoplasma/Blastomyces PCR	No, (Bill Only)	No
RMALF	Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Fungi	No, (Bill Only)	No
RMALY	Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Yeast	No, (Bill Only)	No
LCCA	Id, Candida auris Rapid PCR	No, (Bill Only)	No

### Method Name

Plated to Inhibitory Mold Agar

### NY State Available

Yes

---

**Specimen****Specimen Type**

Varies

**Shipping Instructions**

Specimen should arrive within 24 hours of collection.

**Necessary Information**

Specimen source is required.

**Specimen Required****Specimen Type:** Swab**Source:** Vaginal secretions**Container/Tube:** Culture transport swab (noncharcoal)**Collection Instructions:**

1. Before collecting specimen, wipe away any excessive amount of secretion and discharge.
2. Obtain secretions from the mucosal membrane of the vaginal vault with a sterile swab.
3. If smear and culture are requested or both a bacterial culture and fungal culture are requested, collect a second swab to maximize test sensitivity.

**Forms**If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a [Microbiology Test Request](#) (T244) with the specimen.**Reject Due To**Viral transport media (including but not limited to M4, M5, BD viral transport media, thioglycolate broth)    Reject  
Petri dish**Specimen Minimum Volume**

See Specimen Required

**Specimen Stability Information**

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
---------------	-------------	------	-------------------

Varies	Refrigerated (preferred)	7 days	
	Ambient	7 days	

## Clinical & Interpretive

### Clinical Information

Candidal vulvovaginitis is believed to be the most frequent or second most frequent vaginal infection. Depending on the geographical area, its prevalence in women is estimated to be in the range of 5% to 20%. Besides *Candida albicans*, *Candida glabrata*, and *Candida tropicalis* are the most frequently isolated *Candida* species both from vulvo-vaginitis patients and from healthy carriers.

### Reference Values

Negative

If positive, yeast will be identified.

### Interpretation

Meaningful diagnosis of vaginal candidiasis requires that 1) yeast are demonstrable in the affected area and 2) clinical symptoms and signs are consistent with the disease. Since in up to 20% of healthy women, yeast cells are part of the normal vaginal flora, the presence of *Candida* on culture may be meaningless or misleading unless other clinical factors are considered.

### Clinical Reference

1. Abdallah M, Augenbraun MH, McCormack W: Vulvovaginitis and cervicitis. In: Mandell GL, Bennett JE, Dolin R, eds. Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases. 9th ed. Elsevier; 2020:1462-1476
2. Ashbee HR: General approaches for direction detection and identification of fungi. In: Carroll KC, Pfaller MA, Landry ML, et al, eds. Manual of Clinical Microbiology. 12th ed. Vol 1. ASM Press; 2019:2035-2055

## Performance

### Method Description

Specimens are plated on inhibitory mold agar that contains chloramphenicol to inhibit bacterial contamination. Cultures are incubated at 30 degrees C for 3 days. Identification of *Candida* species is accomplished by a variety of physiologic, biochemical, or molecular tests. (Berkow EL, McGowan KL: Specimen collection, transport, and processing: Mycology. In: Carroll KC, Pfaller MA, Landry ML, et al, eds. Manual of Clinical Microbiology. 12th ed. Vol 1. ASM Press; 2019:2016-2024)

**PDF Report**

No

**Specimen Retention Time**

Raw specimen discarded after 2 days.

**Performing Laboratory Location**

Rochester

**Fees & Codes****Test Classification**

This test has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

**CPT Code Information**

87102-Fungal culture, vaginal

87106-Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Yeast (if appropriate)

87107-Id MALDI-TOF Mass Spec Fungi (if appropriate)

87107-Fungal identification panel A (if appropriate)

87107-Fungal identification panel B (if appropriate)

87150-Identification rapid PCR Coccidioides (if appropriate)

87150 x 2-Identification Histoplasma/Blastomyces, PCR (if appropriate)

87153-D2 fungal sequencing identification (if appropriate)

87150-Id, Candida auris Rapid PCR (if appropriate)

**LOINC® Information**

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC Value
FVAG	Fungal Culture, Vaginal	51723-5

---

Result ID	Reporting Name	LOINC®
FVAG	Fungal Culture, Vaginal	51723-5