
Reporting Title: M tuberculosis Complex PCR**Performing Location:** Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus**Ordering Guidance:**

This test does not provide rifampin resistance information and is most useful for non-sputum specimens. For sputum specimens, the recommended test is MTBXS / Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex, Molecular Detection and Rifampin Resistance, PCR, Sputum. MTBXS provides rapid resistance information to aid with patient management.

Additional Testing Requirements:

This test must always be performed in conjunction with mycobacterial culture. If your facility is unable to perform mycobacterial culture, order CTB / Mycobacteria and *Nocardia* Culture, Varies concurrently with this test.

Shipping Instructions:

Specimen must arrive within 7 days of collection; if greater than 7 days of collection, the specimen will be rejected.

Necessary Information:

Specimen source is required.

Specimen Requirements:

Submit a raw clinical sample (not a culture isolate) for testing.

Fresh, undigested specimens are preferred. If no fresh specimen is available, digested respiratory specimens treated with N-acetyl-L-cysteine/sodium hydroxide (NALC/NaOH) are acceptable for some specimen types. For detailed information, see the **Specimen Type** information below.

The high sensitivity of amplification by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) requires the specimen to be processed in an environment in which contamination of the specimen by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* DNA is unlikely.

If a single specimen is being shared between mycobacteria culture, acid-fast smear, and/or *M tuberculosis* PCR, a minimum volume of 2 mL for body fluid, 3 mL for respiratory specimen, or a pea-sized piece of tissue should be obtained. Specimen volumes less than indicated may decrease sensitivity of testing. If insufficient volume is submitted, test or tests will be canceled.

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

Preferred Specimen Types

Specimen Type: Body fluid

Sources: Body, bone marrow aspirate, ocular, or CSF

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Additional Information: Only fresh, non-NALC/NaOH-digested body fluids are acceptable.

Specimen Type: Gastric washing

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 2 mL

Specimen Type: Respiratory

Sources: BAL, bronchial washing, tracheal secretion, or sputum

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 1 mL if only PCR ordered or 3 mL if PCR ordered with smear and culture

Additional Information: Before collecting sputum specimens, see Ordering Guidance.

Specimen Type: Feces

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 5 to 10 g

Additional Information: Only fresh, non-NALC/NaOH-digested fecal specimens are acceptable.

Specimen Type: Tissue

Sources: Fresh tissue, bone, or bone marrow biopsy

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 5 to 10 mm

Collection Instructions: Keep moist with sterile water or sterile saline

Additional Information: Only fresh, non-NALC/NaOH-digested tissue is acceptable.

Specimen Type: Urine

Container/Tube: Sterile container

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Collection Instructions: Collect a random urine specimen.

Acceptable Specimen Types

Specimen Type: NALC/NaOH-digested respiratory specimens

Sources: Lavage fluid, bronchial washing, gastric 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.

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 Definition: MTBRP

Mycobacterium tuberculosis Complex,
 Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies

Test ID	Question ID	Description	Type	Reportable
MTBRP	SRC62	MTB Complex PCR, Specimen Source	Plain Text	Yes

Result Codes:

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
SRC62	MTB Complex PCR, Specimen Source	Alphanumeric		31208-2
56044	MTB Complex PCR, Result	Alphanumeric		38379-4

LOINC® and CPT codes are provided by the performing laboratory.

Supplemental Report:

No

CPT Code Information:

87556-*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, complex, molecular detection, PCR

87015-Mycobacteria culture, concentration (if appropriate)

Reflex Tests:

Test Id	Reporting Name	CPT Units	CPT Code	Always Performed	Available Separately
TBT	Concentration, Mycobacteria	1	87015	No	No, (Bill Only)

Reference Values:

Not applicable