Test Definition: CHIST

Histoplasma Ab, CSF

Overview

Useful For

Aiding in the diagnosis of *Histoplasma* meningitis in spinal fluid specimens

Method Name

ComplementFixation(CF)/Immunodiffusion

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

CSF

Specimen Required

Container/Tube: Sterile vial

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a Microbiology Test Request (T244) with the specimen.

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.5 mL

Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	OK
Gross lipemia	OK

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
CSF	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days	
	Frozen	14 days	

Clinical and Interpretive

Clinical Information

Histoplasma capsulatum is a soil saprophyte that grows well in soil enriched with bird droppings. The usual disease is self-limited, affects the lungs, and is asymptomatic. Chronic cavitary pulmonary disease, disseminated disease, and meningitis may occur and can be fatal, especially in young children and immunosuppressed patients.

Reference Values

MYCELIAL BY COMPLEMENT FIXATION (CF)

Negative (positives reported as titer)

YEAST BY CF

Negative (positives reported as titer)

ANTIBODY BY IMMUNODIFFUSION

Negative (positives reported as band present)

Interpretation

Any positive serologic result in spinal fluid is significant.

Simultaneous appearance of the H and M precipitin bands indicates active histoplasmosis.

The M band alone indicates active or chronic disease or a recent skin test for histoplasmosis.

Cautions

Antibody levels may be low in spinal fluid in cases of *Histoplasma* meningitis.

Histoplasmin skin tests yield specific antibodies in titratable quantity, and may cause difficulties in interpretation.

Cross-reacting antibodies with coccidioidomycosis or blastomycosis may cause false-positive results for *Histoplasmosis*.

Clinical Reference

Kaufman L, Kovacs JA, Reiss E: Clinical immunomycology. In Manual of Clinical and Laboratory Immunology, Washington, DC, ASM Press.1997

Performance

Method Description

Both immunodiffusion and compliment fixation (CF) tests are used to detect antibodies to *Histoplasma capsulatum*. For immunodiffusion, the antigen is a culture filtrate, histoplasmin. H and M precipitin bands are identified. For the CF test, the antigens are histoplasmin and a yeast form of *Histoplasma capsulatum*; the latter is more sensitive.(Roberts GD: Fungi. In Laboratory Procedures in Clinical Microbiology. Second edition. Edited by JA Washington II. New York, Springer-Verlag, 1985)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed

Monday; 6 a.m.

Tuesday through Friday; 9:30 a.m.

Analytic Time

2 days

Maximum Laboratory Time

7 days

Specimen Retention Time

14 days

Performing Laboratory Location

Rochester

Fees and Codes

Fees

- Authorized users can sign in to Test Prices for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their Regional Manager. For assistance, contact Customer Service.

Test Classification

This test uses a standard method. Its performance characteristics were determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. This test has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

86698 x 3

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC Value
CHIST	Histoplasma Ab, CSF	91684-1

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC Value
15118	Histoplasma Mycelial (CSF)	27220-3
15119	Histoplasma Yeast (CSF)	27209-6
15120	Histoplasma Immunodiffusion (CSF)	91682-5