



# Test Definition: RETF

Lung Cancer, RET (10q11) Rearrangement,  
FISH, Tissue

## Overview

### Useful For

Identifying *RET* gene rearrangements in patients with late-stage, lung adenocarcinomas that are negative for epidermal growth factor receptor mutations and anaplastic lymphoma kinase rearrangements

Identifying tumors that may be sensitive to directed therapy

Supporting the diagnosis of certain salivary gland, cutaneous, and other tumors when used in conjunction with an anatomic pathology consultation

### Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
_I099	Interphases, 25-99	No, (Bill Only)	No
_I300	Interphases, >=100	No, (Bill Only)	No
_IL25	Interphases, <25	No, (Bill Only)	No
_PADD	Probe, +1	No, (Bill Only)	No
_PB02	Probe, +2	No, (Bill Only)	No
_PB03	Probe, +3	No, (Bill Only)	No
_PBCT	Probe, +2	No, (Bill Only)	No

### Testing Algorithm

This test includes a charge for the probe application, analysis, and professional interpretation of results for one probe set (2 individual fluorescence in situ hybridization probes). No analysis charges will be incurred if an insufficient number of representative cells are available for analysis.

Appropriate ancillary probes may be performed at consultant discretion to render comprehensive assessment. Any additional probes will have the results included within the final report and will be performed at an additional charge.

### Method Name

Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization (FISH)

### NY State Available

Yes

## Specimen

### Specimen Type

Tissue

---

**Ordering Guidance**

This test does not include a pathology consultation. If a pathology consultation is requested, order PATHC / Pathology Consultation, and appropriate testing will be added at the discretion of the pathologist and performed at an additional charge.

Multiple oncology (cancer) gene panels are also available. For more information see [Hematology, Oncology, and Hereditary Test Selection Guide](#)

**Additional Testing Requirements**

Confirmation testing for the presence of a possible RET fusion transcript by next generation sequencing to resolve atypical or unbalanced fluorescence in situ hybridization results is available, order MCLNR / MayoComplete Lung Rearrangements, Rapid Test, Tumor.

**Shipping Instructions**

Advise Express Mail or equivalent if not on courier service.

**Necessary Information**

**1. A pathology report is required for testing to be performed.** If not provided, appropriate testing and interpretation may be compromised or delayed. Acceptable pathology reports include working drafts, preliminary pathology, or surgical pathology reports.

**2. The following information must be included in the report provided:**

- Patient name
- Block number - must be on all blocks, slides, and paperwork
- Date of collection
- Tissue source

**3. A reason for testing must be provided.** If this information is not provided, an appropriate indication for testing may be entered by Mayo Clinic Laboratories.

**Specimen Required**

**Submit only 1 of the following specimens:**

**Preferred:**

**Specimen Type:** Tissue block (fresh tissue is **not acceptable**)

**Collection Instructions:**

1. Submit a formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tumor tissue block.
2. Blocks prepared with alternative fixation methods (eg, Prefer, Bouin's) will be attempted but are less favorable for successful results. Provide fixation method used.

**Additional Information:**

1. Paraffin-embedded specimens can be from any anatomic location (skin, soft tissue, lymph node, etc).
2. Decalcified paraffin-embedded specimens will have testing attempted; however, the success rate is approximately 50%. **Testing may be canceled** if sufficient tumor tissue is not present.
3. **Submitted fresh tissue specimens will be canceled upon receipt.** If only fresh tissue is available, embed in paraffin prior to sending.

**Acceptable:**

**Specimen Type:** Tissue slides

**Slides:** 1 Hematoxylin and eosin-stained and 4 unstained

**Collection Instructions:** Submit 1 slide stained with hematoxylin and eosin and 4 consecutive unstained, positively charged, unbaked slides with 5 micron-thick sections of the tumor tissue.

### Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send an [Oncology Test Request](#) (T729) with the specimen.

### Specimen Minimum Volume

Slides: 1 Hematoxylin and eosin-stained and 2 unstained

### Reject Due To

All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

### Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Tissue	Ambient (preferred)		
	Refrigerated		

## Clinical & Interpretive

### Clinical Information

Chromosomal rearrangements of the *RET* proto-oncogene at chromosome 10q11 resulting in fusion of the *RET* gene with various partner genes has been identified as a recurrent abnormality in several tumor types including but not limited to some non-small cell carcinomas of the lung, thyroid carcinomas, salivary gland carcinomas, and soft tissue tumors

Clinical data has shown that tumors harboring *RET* fusions may be sensitive to directed inhibitor therapy.

### Reference Values

An interpretive report will be provided.

### Interpretation

*RET* will be clinically interpreted as positive, negative, or equivocal.

A neoplastic clone is detected when the percent of cells with an abnormality exceeds the normal cutoff for the *RET* probe set.

A positive result is consistent with rearrangement of the *RET* gene and likely reflects *RET* fusion with a partner gene. A positive result suggests that the tumor may be sensitive to directed kinase inhibitors. While results may indicate the potential response to directed tyrosine kinase inhibitors, selection of treatment remains a clinical decision.

A negative result suggests a *RET* gene rearrangement is not present. A negative result does not exclude the possible

---

sensitivity to targeted therapy.

**Cautions**

This test is not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and it is best used as an adjunct to existing clinical and pathologic information.

This test is intended to be used for therapeutic purposes in pulmonary carcinoma. This fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) assay does not rule out other chromosome abnormalities.

While results may indicate the likely response to *RET* kinase inhibitor therapy, selection of treatment remains a clinical decision.

This FISH assay does not rule out other chromosome abnormalities.

Fixatives other than formalin (eg, Prefer, Bouin's) may not be successful for FISH assays. Non-formalin fixed specimens will not be rejected.

Paraffin-embedded tissues that have been decalcified may not be successful for FISH analysis. The success rate of FISH studies on decalcified tissue is approximately 50%, but FISH will be attempted if sufficient tumor is present for analysis.

Fluorescence in situ hybridization studies will be attempted if sufficient tumor is present for analysis. The pathologist reviewing the hematoxylin and eosin-stained slide may find it necessary to cancel testing if insufficient tissue/tumor is available for testing.

If no FISH signals or a lack of sufficient tumor tissue are observed post-hybridization, the case will be released indicating a lack of FISH results.

**Clinical Reference**

1. Wang R, Hu H, Pan Y, et al. RET fusions define a unique molecular and clinicopathologic subtype of non–small-cell lung cancer. *J Clin Oncol.* 2012;30(35):4352-9
2. Weinreb I, Bishop JA, Chiosea SI, et al. RET gene rearrangements in intraductal carcinomas of salivary gland. *Am J Surg Pathol.* 2018;42(4):442
3. Lee MY, Ku BM, Kim HS, et al. Genetic alterations and their clinical implications in high-recurrence risk papillary thyroid cancer. *Cancer Res Treat.* 2017;49(4):906-14
4. Drilon A, Oxnard GR, Tan DS, et al. Efficacy of selpercatinib in RET fusion–positive non–small-cell lung cancer. *N Engl J Med.* 2020;383(9):813-24
5. Wirth LJ, Sherman E, Robinson B, et al. Efficacy of selpercatinib in RET-altered thyroid cancers. *N Engl J Med.* 2020;383(9):825-35
6. Aldea M, Marinello A, Duruisseaux M, et al. RET-MAP: An international multicenter study on clinicobiologic features and treatment response in patients with lung cancer harboring a RET fusion. *J Thorac Oncol.* 2023;18(5):576-586
7. Antonescu CR, Suurmeijer AJ, Zhang L, et al. Molecular characterization of inflammatory myofibroblastic tumors with frequent ALK and ROS1 gene fusions and rare novel RET rearrangement. *Am J Surg Pathol.* 2015;(7)39:957-967

---

## Performance

### Method Description

The test is performed using a laboratory-developed RET dual-color, break-apart strategy fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) probe set (BAP). Paraffin-embedded tissue samples are cut at 5 microns and mounted on positively charged glass slides. The selection of tissue and the identification of target areas on the hematoxylin and eosin (H and E)-stained slide are performed by a pathologist. Using the H and E-stained slide as a reference, target areas are etched with a diamond-tipped engraving tool on the back of the unstained slide to be assayed. Each probe set is hybridized to the appropriate target areas, as indicated on the H and E, and 100 interphase nuclei are scored within the targeted areas. The results are expressed as the percent of abnormal nuclei.(Unpublished Mayo method)

### PDF Report

No

### Day(s) Performed

Monday through Friday

### Report Available

7 to 10 days

### Specimen Retention Time

Slides used for analysis are retained by the laboratory in accordance with regulatory requirements. Client provided paraffin blocks and extra unstained slides (if provided) will be returned after testing is complete.

### Performing Laboratory Location

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

---

## Fees & 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 account representative. For assistance, contact [Customer Service](#).

### Test Classification

This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. It has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

### CPT Code Information

88271x2, 88291-DNA probe, each (first probe set), Interpretation and report  
88271x2-DNA probe, each; each additional probe set (if appropriate)  
88271x1-DNA probe, each; coverage for sets containing 3 probes (if appropriate)

- 88271x2-DNA probe, each; coverage for sets containing 4 probes (if appropriate)
- 88271x3-DNA probe, each; coverage for sets containing 5 probes (if appropriate)
- 88274 w/modifier 52-Interphase in situ hybridization, <25 cells, each probe set (if appropriate)
- 88274-Interphase in situ hybridization, 25 to 99 cells, each probe set (if appropriate)

### LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
RETF	RET (10q11), FISH, Ts	90927-5

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
52243	Result Summary	50397-9
52245	Interpretation	69965-2
54596	Result	62356-1
CG756	Reason for Referral	42349-1
52246	Specimen	31208-2
52247	Source	31208-2
52248	Tissue ID	80398-1
52249	Method	85069-3
52250	Released By	18771-6
55124	Additional Information	48767-8
53820	Disclaimer	62364-5