

TEST:	Legionella Antigen Detection
Synonym:	Legionella Urinary Antigen
Laboratory/Phone:	443-681-3938/3931
Turnaround Time:	5 days
Specimen Required:	urine
Specimen identification:	Label specimen with patient's first and last names
Specimen Volume (Optimum):	5 ml urine, first void preferred
Specimen Volume (Minimum):	0.5 ml urine
Collect:	Sterile container
Form:	DHMH 4677
Packaging and Shipping:	See packaging for transport instructions in Guide
Transport Conditions:	Leak proof containers shipped at 2-8°C (refrigerated)
Specimen Rejection Criteria:	Insufficient specimen volume; bloody specimen
Availability:	Monday through Friday
Results and Interpretation:	<p>POSITIVE— Presumptive evidence of <i>L. pneumophila</i> serogroup 1 antigen in urine, suggesting current or past infection</p> <p>NEGATIVE—No evidence of <i>L. pneumophila</i> serogroup 1 antigen in urine suggesting no recent or current infection. Legionnaires' disease cannot be ruled out since other serogroups and species may also cause disease.</p>
Reference Range:	Negative
Additional Information:	<p>Only detects <i>L. pneumophila</i> serogroup 1. All other serogroups and other Legionella species must be detected by culture.</p> <p>http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html</p>
Purpose of Test:	Detect presence of <i>L. pneumophila</i> serogroup 1 antigen in urine.
Method:	EIA
Interfering Substances:	Specimens may produce a false positive result from patients with bacteremia (<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>) pulmonary conditions and urinary tract infection (<i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>).
Testing Site:	DHMH Laboratories Administration, Central Laboratory, Baltimore, MD
Comment:	<p>Some individuals have been shown to excrete antigen for an extended period of time, so a positive ELISA reaction may reflect a recent but not active infection.</p> <p>Early treatment with appropriate antibiotics may also decrease antigen excretion in some individuals.</p>

TEST:	Legionella Culture
Synonym:	<i>Legionella pneumophila</i> culture isolation/identification
Laboratory/Phone:	443-681-3938/3931
Turnaround Time:	Usually within 10-14 days from receipt in the laboratory
Specimen Required:	Sputum, lung tissue, other body tissue, pleural fluid, transtracheal aspiration, lung exudate, lung biopsy/autopsy, lung abscess material.
Specimen identification:	Label container with patient's last name, first name, DOB, specimen type, date and time of collection.
Specimen Volume (Optimum):	1 ml sputum; trans tracheal aspirate, biopsy; 1 gram lung tissue; 1 ml lung exudate; 1 cc lung biopsy; 50 ml bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL); 1 ml lung abscess material; 7 ml blood in an isolator tube; collect in sterile container.
Specimen Volume (Minimum):	Half of the optimum amount
Collect:	Specimen in sterile screw capped container. Prevent specimen from drying. DO NOT USE SALINE IN SPECIMEN COLLECTION. BAL specimens containing saline are acceptable.
Form:	Infectious Agents: Culture/Detection Form #4676 Indicate specimen type using the "Specimen Code" on form.
Packaging and Shipping:	Submit specimen according to Biological Substance, Category B shipping guidelines (diagnostic specimen).
Transport Conditions:	Refrigerate and ship within 48 hours; if delayed, freeze for a maximum of a week at -70°C and transport frozen. Transport Isolator at 2-8°C. Place each
Specimen Rejection Criteria:	Specimen received after prolonged delay (more than 48 hours after collection), Swab specimen, improper labeling; specimen received in grossly leaking transport container; urine, stool, wounds or other culture material from non-respiratory sites.
Availability:	Monday through Friday.
Results and Interpretation:	POSITIVE -- Presence of <i>Legionella pneumophila</i> NEGATIVE — <i>Legionella pneumophila</i> not isolated
Reference Range:	Culture negative for Legionella species.
Additional Information:	http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html
Purpose of Test:	Isolation and identification of Legionella species.
Method:	Culture, staining, biochemical testing.
Interfering Substances/Limitations:	Avoid contamination with normal respiratory flora.
Testing Site:	DHMH Laboratories Administration, Central Laboratory, Baltimore, MD
Comment:	

TEST:	Legionella serology
Synonym:	Legionella pneumophila serogroup 1-6
Laboratory/Phone:	443-681-3938/3931
Turnaround Time:	5 days
Specimen Required:	Serum
Specimen identification:	Label tube with patients first and last name
Specimen Volume (Optimum):	2 ml.
Specimen Volume (Minimum):	1 ml.
Collect:	Red-top vacutainer
Form:	DHMH 4677
Packaging and Shipping:	See packaging for transport instructions in Guide
Transport Conditions:	Ambient temperature for specimens on the blood clot, separated serum at 2-8°C (refrigerated) or -20°C (frozen).
Specimen Rejection Criteria:	Hemolysis; insufficient volume, specimen collected > 7 days prior to arrival without being frozen
Availability:	Monday through Friday
Results and Interpretation:	POSITIVE --Four-fold rise in titer between acute and convalescent specimens indicates a recent infection NEGATIVE — Single titer < 256 INCONCLUSIVE —Single or sustained titer ≥256 may indicate past infection or exposure to Legionella species, diagnostic relevance cannot be determined
Reference Range:	Negative
Additional Information:	http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html
Purpose of Test:	Detect antibody to Legionella pneumophila serogroup 1-6
Method:	IFA
Interfering Substances:	Icteric, hemolyzed, lipemic
Testing Site:	DHMH Laboratories Administration, Central Laboratory, Baltimore, MD
Comment:	Acute phase sera should be collected within the first week after onset of illness, and convalescent phase sera, 3-9 weeks after onset. The patients' clinical data and other laboratory tests should be carefully reviewed by a medical authority before a diagnosis is made.