



**SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
TEST INFORMATION**

Section: Mycobacteriology

Test Name: Tuberculosis (Microscopic – Fluorescent Antibody stain)

Test Includes: Fluorescent antibody stain..	
<i>Reporting</i>	
Results Available: 1 day. Positive results are phoned to the submitter within 2 hours of availability. Negative results on in-patients are also phoned within 2 hours.	Contact Number: (650) 573-2500
<i>Reference</i>	
Method: Fluorescent antibody stain	
Turnaround Time: 24 hours. Positive results telephoned to the submitter.	Reference Range: No AFB seen
Limitations: A negative test does not mean the patient specimen cannot be culture positive for AFB. The test is less sensitive than culture. The stain utilizes a fluorescent dye that can be taken up by the mycobacterium to different degrees depending on the species or if the patient is on antibiotic treatment. The quality of the specimen has major impact on the results of the microscopic examination. All tests must be confirmed by culture of specimen for the presence of Mycobacteria.	
Interpretation: The report states whether the test is Negative if No AFB are seen or Positive if AFB are seen on microscopic examination. If Positive, the report provides a quantitation to indicate how many AFB were seen in a high power field. Occasionally, an examination will result in the observation of only one or two AFB in the entire test. This number of AFB (one or two) is reported but is not considered a positive result by CDC or the American Thoracic Society.	
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	
Specimen Collection:	Sample Type: Clinical specimen
Volume/Amount Required: 3 ml to 15 ml	Preferred Specimen: Sputum, tissue, exudate, urine, stool. blood, body fluids
Collection/Preservation: No preservative	Storage Instructions: Transport specimen as soon as possible. If transport is delayed over one hour, refrigerate specimen, unless blood.
Causes for Rejection: Specimens received frozen, in formalin, or in culture medium will be rejected. Swabs are discouraged unless the only specimen available; submit swabs in 5 ml sterile saline. Refrigerated blood specimens and specimens less than 5 ml will be rejected.	Sample Container: Sterile, leak-proof, 50 ml urine cup or 50 ml conical tube preferred for primary container. Add up to 10 ml sterile saline to tissue if needed to maintain moisture during transport. Collect blood specimens in _____.
Sample Test Kit:	Availability: Tested seven days per week
Diagnostic Information:	



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<i>Specimen Submission</i>	
Request Form: Standard lab test request form or LIS interface.	Specimen Handling: Universal precautions
Transport Temperature: Ambient	Shipping Requirements: Triple-contained and packaged to meet requirements of DOT, USPS, PHS and IATA for shipping of clinical specimens.
<i>Billing</i>	
CPT Code(s): 87206	Fees: \$10.00
Effective Date: July 1, 2008	