

## Cerebrospinal Fluid Culture For AFB



<b>Alternate Name:</b>	CSF Culture for Mycobacteria	
<b>Test Includes:</b>	Culture for Mycobacteria species, to include <i>M. tuberculosis</i> and <i>M. avium</i> complex (MAC)	
	Smear for Mycobacteria species	
<b>Performing Lab:</b>	New Hanover	
<b>Specimen Container:</b>	Sterile screw-cap tube	
<b>Minimum Volume Required:</b>	0.5 mL	
<b>Testing Availability</b>	<b>Routine:</b>	24 hours/day
	<b>Stat:</b>	No
<b>Turnaround Time:</b>	6 weeks	
	Physicians, the patient's nurse and Infection Control will be notified immediately of positive smears and/or cultures.	
<b>Special Handling:</b>	Tubes should be numbered in sequence. The third tube collected during the lumbar puncture is most suitable for culture, as skin contaminants from the puncture are usually washed out with fluid collected in the first two tubes.	
	Specimens must be delivered to the laboratory within 30 minutes of collection.	
<b>Patient Preparation:</b>	None	
<b>Specimen Stability:</b>		
<b>Reference Range:</b>	No Acid-Fast Bacilli isolated	
<b>Critical Value:</b>	N/A	
<b>CPT Code:</b>		

**Testing Methodology:**

Culture

**Causes for Specimen Rejection:**

Improper labeling

Specimen not collected in a sterile container.

Specimen container must not be contaminated on the outside of the container.

Specimens must be delivered to the laboratory within 30 minutes of collection.

**Other Comments:**

**Clinical Significance:**

N/A