



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Effective Date: 03/13/2017

Rapid identification of pathogens associated with meningitis/encephalitis by a rapid PCR panel

Northwell Health Laboratories now offers a Nucleic Acid Amplification test panel for the simultaneous detection and identification of several pathogenic microorganisms. The Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) assays are performed directly on cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) specimens obtained via lumbar puncture from individuals with signs and/or symptoms of meningitis and/or encephalitis.

The organisms detected by the panel are:

Bacteria / Fungus

Escherichia coli
Haemophilus influenzae
Listeria monocytogenes
Neisseria meningitidis
Streptococcus agalactiae (Grp B)
Streptococcus pneumoniae
Cryptococcus neoformans/gattii

Viruses

Cytomegalovirus (CMV)
Enterovirus
Herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1)
Herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2)
Human Herpesvirus 6 (HHV-6)
Human Parechovirus
Varicella-Zoster virus (VZV)

Test Order, SCM/Sunrise: CSF PCR Panel

Test Cerner Code: CSFPCR

Computer Interface Code: PDM# 1663066

Availability / TAT: Mon – Sun / 24 hours

Specimen Requirement: 0.5 mL of CSF

Submit in a clean sterile container. Keep refrigerated and forward as soon as possible to the laboratory for testing.

If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at (516) 719-1100.