Lab Dept: Serology
Test Name: COLD AGGLUTININ

**General Information**

Lab Order Codes: COAM
Synonyms: Cold Agglutinin Titer, Serum
CPT Codes: 86157 – Cold agglutinin; titer
Test Includes: Cold agglutinin titer

**Logistics**

Test Indications: Useful in the evaluation of suspected cold agglutinin syndrome. It is not specific for *Mycoplasma pneumonia* and is not recommended to diagnose *Mycoplasma pneumonia* infections. It is useful for supporting the diagnosis of primary atypical pneumonia, infection with *Mycoplasma pneunoniae*, hemolytic anemia, some viral diseases, and infectious diseases such as staphylococcemia, influenza, and tuberculosis.

Lab Testing Sections: Serology - Sendouts
Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (Test: CATR)
Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280
STP Lab: 651-220-6550
Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours
Turnaround Time: 2 - 3 days
Special Instructions: **Do Not** refrigerate specimen before processing. Use a warm pack to keep the specimen at 37 degrees C prior to and after collecting.

**Specimen**

Specimen Type: Blood
Container: Red top (plain, no gel) tube
Draw Volume: 12 mL (Minimum: 3 mL) blood
Processed Volume: 4 mL (Minimum: 1 mL) serum
Routine venipuncture

Lab Staff: Don’t refrigerate prior to separation of serum from red cells. Centrifuge specimen at 37 degrees C or within 1 hr of collection, remove serum from red cells IMMEDIATELY after blood clots and aliquot into screw-capped round bottom plastic vial. Store and ship specimen refrigerated. Forward promptly.

None

Serum gel tube; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

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<th>Titer</th>
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<td>&lt;1:64</td>
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Patients with cold agglutinin syndrome usually exhibit a titer value greater than 1:512, with rare cases reported as low as 1:64. Normal individuals often have low levels of cold agglutinins. The test is not a direct measure of clinical significance and must be used in conjunction with other in vitro and in vivo parameters.

N/A

Normal individuals may have low levels of cold agglutinins.

Titration-Red Cell Agglutination at 4 degrees C. Titer is determined by making serial doubling dilutions of the patient’s serum in 0.9% saline. Group O indicator red cells are added and the serum-cell mixture is then incubated 20 minutes at 0 degrees C to 5 degrees C, and the titer end point range is determined.

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