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**Lab Dept:** Other Fluids

**Test Name:** BODY FLUID COUNT & DIFFERENTIAL

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** BFC

**Synonyms:** Body Fluid Count

**CPT Codes:** 89050 - Cell count, miscellaneous body fluids  
89051 - Cell count with differential

**Test Includes:** RBC, WBC and Differential if WBC >10 cells/mL<sup>3</sup>

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Evaluation of body fluids for the presence of WBC and RBC which may indicate infection, hemorrhage or malignant neoplasm

**Lab Testing Sections:** Hematology

**Phone Numbers:** MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 4 hours

**Special Instructions:** Specimen must arrive within 1 hour of collection. Indicate source of specimen on request form. **Do Not** send to laboratory through the pneumatic tube system.

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Fluid (Specify type)

**Container:** Specimens collected with or without anticoagulant. If collected with anticoagulant, use heparin or EDTA.

**Draw Volume:** 1 mL fluid

**Processed Volume:** Minimum: 0.5 mL fluid

**Collection:** Dependant on fluid type

**Special Processing:** N/A

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Sample Rejection:** Clotted sample, slide will be processed to check for most common WBC cell type; mislabeled or unlabeled specimen

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***Interpretive***

**Reference Range:**

Appearance:			
<b>Color:</b>	Pale yellow to colorless		
<b>Clarity:</b>	Clear		
Cell Counts:			
Fluid Type:	WBC	RBC	Differential
Dialysate	<10 uL	0 uL	<25% PMNs
Paracentesis	<1,000 uL	100,000 uL	<25% PMNs
Pleural	<1,000 uL	100,000 uL	<25% PMNs
Thoracentesis	<1,000 uL	100,000 uL	<25% PMNs

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** N/A

**Methodology:** Light microscopy

**References:** Kjelsberg C et al (1993) Body Fluids, American Society of Clinical Pathologists Press