
Lab Dept: Serology

Test Name: COCCIDIOIDES ANTIBODY, SERUM

General Information

Lab Order Codes: CAB

Synonyms: Coccidioides Antibody; Coccidioides Aby; San Joaquin Valley Fever

CPT Codes: 86635 x3 - Antibody; Coccidioides

Test Includes: Coccidioides IgG by Complement Fixation and Coccidioides IgG and IgM by Immunodiffusion reported as negative or positive. Positive results will be titered.

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful for detection of antibodies in patients suspected of having coccidioidomycosis.

Serologic testing for coccidioidomycosis should be considered when patients exhibit symptoms of pulmonary or meningeal infection and have lived or traveled in areas where *Coccidioides immitis* is endemic. Any history of exposure to the organism or travel cannot be overemphasized when a diagnosis of coccidioidomycosis is being considered.

Lab Testing Sections: Serology - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Tes: 8295/SCOC)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 4 – 7 days; test set up Monday - Friday

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

Container: Red top tube

Draw Volume: 6 mL (Minimum: 3.6 mL) blood

Processed Volume:	2 mL (Minimum: 1.2 mL) serum
Collection:	Routine venipuncture
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Centrifuge serum, remove aliquot and store refrigerated in a screw-capped, round bottom vial. Ship refrigerated. Forward promptly.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Specimens other than serum, gross hemolysis, gross lipemia, mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Complement Fixation (CF):	Negative If positive, results are titered
	Titers of $\geq 1:2$ may suggest active disease; however, titers may persist for months after infection has resolved. Increasing CF titers in serial specimens are diagnostic of active disease.	
	Immunodiffusion (ID):	Negative Results are reported as positive, negative or equivocal.
<p>The presence of IgM antibody may be detectable within 2 weeks after the onset of symptoms; however, antibody may be detected longer than 6 months after infection.</p> <p>The presence of IgG antibody parallels the CF antibody and indicates an active or a recent asymptomatic infection with <i>Coccidioides immitis</i>; however, antibody may persist after the infection has resolved.</p> <p>An equivocal result (a band of non-identity) cannot be interpreted as significant for a specific diagnosis. However, this may be an indication that a patient should be followed serologically.</p> <p>Over 90% of primary symptomatic cases will be detected by combined ID and CF testing.</p>		

Critical Values:	N/A
Limitations:	Antibodies (both IgM and IgG) may be present after the infection has resolved.
Methodology:	Complement Fixation (CF) using Coccidioidin IgG Immunodiffusion: IgG/IgM
References:	Mayo Medical Laboratories Web Page July 2013