
Lab Dept: Serology

Test Name: COLD AGGLUTININ

General Information

Lab Order Codes: COAM

Synonyms: Cold Agglutinin Titer, Serum

CPT Codes: 86156 – Cold agglutinin; screen
86157 – Cold agglutinin; titer

Test Includes: Cold agglutinin screen and titer results.

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 pneumoniae*, hemolytic anemia, some viral diseases, and infectious diseases such as staphylococemia, influenza, and tuberculosis.

Lab Testing Sections: Serology - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (Test: CAGG)

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.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

Container: Red top (plain, no gel) tube

Draw Volume: 6 mL (Minimum: 3 mL) blood

Processed Volume: 2 mL (Minimum: 1 mL) serum

Collection: Routine venipuncture

Special Processing: Lab Staff: Don't refrigerate prior to separation of serum from red cells. Centrifuge specimen, 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.

Patient Preparation: None

Sample Rejection: Serum gel tube; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Screen:	Negative (no cold agglutinin detected)
	Titer:	<1:64

Critical Values: N/A

Limitations: N/A

Methodology: A screen will be performed on all specimens first to identify most of those with titer values in the normal range. If the screen is negative, no titration will be performed and the screen will be reported as negative. If the screen is positive, no titration will be performed and the screen will be reported as positive. If the screen is positive, a titer will be performed and the screen will be reported as positive.

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.

References: [Mayo Medical Laboratory Web Page](#) July 2015