



Department of Health and Human Services
 Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Neisseria meningitidis Detection in CSF by Real Time PCR

Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes: Meningitis due to <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> is a Notifiable Condition. If you have not already done so, please report suspect or confirmed cases to the Maine CDC via the disease reporting line: 1-800-821-5821 (24hrs/day 7 days/week.)
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No, this is a PCR based screen. In the event a clinical lab isolates <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>, it must send the isolate to HETL for grouping. (For clinical isolates please refer to the Laboratory Submission Information Sheet for <i>N. meningitidis</i> by Culture.)
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on requisition must include: test requested, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information. • Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name, DOB or other unique identifier, and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF) (0.5ml minimum, 1ml preferred). DO NOT DILUTE CSF. • Collect specimen in a sterile leak proof container. • Samples should be kept at 2-8°C for short term storage and may be frozen (-70°C) for long term storage.
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If sample is expected to arrive within 48 hours, CSF should be stored in refrigerator until shipping. Use frozen cold packs to transport samples to the lab. • If sample is expected to arrive after 48 hours, CSF should be stored and shipped frozen. • Avoid contamination of CSF with blood.
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCR results are generally available within 1 - 3 business days of specimen receipt at HETL
Rejection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specimens received without a requisition form, clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze. Specimens in poorly labeled, unlabeled, or leaking containers. Specimens transported at incorrect temperature. • CSF diluted in Viral Transport Media (VTM) or other transport media
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> DNA Detected • <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> DNA Not Detected • Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$110
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87798
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bacteriology at 207-287-1704 • Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, Serology, and STI at 207-287-1722 • Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769 • Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706