

Mycoplasma pneumoniae by PCR

New Sparrow DNA Laboratory Test

November 2016

Mycoplasma pneumoniae molecular testing is now performed at Sparrow Laboratories and significantly enhances your diagnostic options for the detection of Mycoplasma pneumoniae from multiple sample types. Mycoplasma pneumoniae is associated with up to 40% of community-acquired pneumonias as an estimated 2 million cases of mycoplasma pneumoniae infection occur annually.

Diagnostic Values

Diagnosis of acute *M. pneumoniae* infection is difficult. Basic diagnostic strategies in clinical practice include culture and serology. *M. pneumoniae* culture is often impractical for patient management as the organism are slow growing and can take more than 3 weeks to identify by culture. While serology products are widely available and offer practical diagnostic solutions, they may be limited in their ability to detect acute infection. Serological assays are often directed at specific immunoglobulin, IgM and IgG. IgM antibodies are generally not detectable with the first 7 days of symptom onset and may persist for years after active infection. Studies indicate that less than 50% of patients with acute infection demonstrate a positive IgG response. DNA-amplification methods, may enable more rapid diagnosis enabling earlier identification of outbreaks and prevention of secondary cases through implementation of control measures.

Test Ordering		Specimen Types	Requirements
Mycoplasma pneumoniae, PCR		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Throat swab, *Preferred	Collect with Culturette II (aerobic) swab; polyester or rayon swabs acceptable
LIS Soft	PCMPG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nasal pharyngeal (NP) swab• Nasal pharyngeal wash	Collect with Flocked/Floq, polyester or rayon swab; submit in VTM. Washes, submit in viral transport media (VTM).
2 nd ID	1022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sputum• BAL• Tracheal Aspirates	Submit in sterile container. Follow specialized specimen collection guidelines for respiratory specimens.
Epic	LAB261	Storage and Transport:	Refrigerated or room temperature
CPT & LOINC	87581/29257-3	Stability: sample should be tested as soon as possible.	48 hours at 19-29 °C room temperature; 5 days refrigerated at 2-8°C