

Louisiana Office of Public Health Laboratories	
Test Name	<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Conventional PCR
PHL Location	Office of Public Health Laboratory Baton Rouge
CPT Code	83891, 83894, 83898x6
Synonyms	Meningitis
Brief Description of Test	Conventional PCR for – <i>N. meningitidis</i> and serogroups A, B, C, W135 and Y
Possible Results	<p><i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Group A Detected</p> <p><i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Group B Detected</p> <p><i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Group C Detected</p> <p><i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Group W135 Detected</p> <p><i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Group Y Detected</p> <p>No <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Detected</p> <p>No <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> Groups A, B, C, W135 or Y Detected</p> <p>Inconclusive – No Culture Available for Confirmation</p>
Reference Range	Not Detected
Specimen Type	Actively growing, pure culture inoculated in/on unexpired media preferred
Specimen Container(s):	Leak proof, screw cap slants or tubes. Do not send inoculated agar plates through the mail system.
Minimum volume accepted:	N/A
Collection Instructions	<p>Label specimen with Patient Name and a 2nd Unique Identifier such as a chart number or medical record number. DOB is not considered unique.</p> <p>Complete a LAB Form 93 to accompany the sample. Lab submission form must be thoroughly completed with patient's first and last name, 2nd patient identifier, gender, date of birth, date and time of collection, specimen source, test requested, submitter's name, address, fax and contact number. Additional information regarding patients' address is requested.</p> <p>Transport specimen to laboratory as soon as possible after collection/incubation. Keep submission forms insulated from specimens.</p>
Storage and Transport Instructions	<p>Store and transport under ambient conditions.</p> <p>Send sample to the Office of Public Health Laboratory Baton Rouge, 1209 Leesville Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70802</p>

Causes for Rejection	Two unique identifiers MUST be recorded on the specimen AND the Lab 93 form. A missing identifier on the tube will be an automatic rejection. If the identifiers are missing from the lab form, the submitter must be contacted and a new form with this information must be faxed back to the lab before testing/reporting will take place.
Limitations of the Procedure	PCR results should not be used as a sole test for sample identification.
Interfering Substances	N/A for direct culture testing
References	Muhamed-Kheir Taha. 2000. Simultaneous Approach for Nonculture PCR-Based Identification and Serogroup Prediction of <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> . Journal of Clinical Microbiology 38:855-857
Additional Information	Primers for <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> detection and grouping were developed by Muhamed-Kheir Taha 2000. Assay performance characteristics have been determined by the Louisiana Office of Public Health Central Lab. This test has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
Release Date	3/15/2016
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