



<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> (TB) complex - Real Time PCR Laboratory Submission Information Sheet	
Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC:	Yes. TB complex is a notifiable disease.
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen:	Yes: Specimens that are AFB positive or specimens from suspect <i>M. tuberculosis</i> cases must be submitted.
Required Information:	Information on requisition must include: suspected organism, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information. IMPORTANT: ALL SPECIMENS MUST BE LABELED WITH PATIENT NAME AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN HETL REQUISITION Requisition form: PDF
Specimen Requirements:	Primary Specimens and Sediments: Respiratory specimens including expectorated and induced sputum, bronchial and tracheal aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL), bronchial washing, fine needle biopsy, and lung biopsies. <i>Other specimen sources (i.e. extrapulmonary) may be suitable for testing, but have not been validated due to insufficient number of positives available.</i>
Collection Instructions:	Collect in a sterile and leak proof container (i.e. 50mL conical Falcon tube). Specimens should be refrigerated upon collection.
Specimen Handling and Transport:	Samples should arrive at the laboratory within five days.
Turn Around Time:	1-3 business days following sample arrival
Unacceptable Conditions:	Non refrigerated or frozen specimen, incomplete specimen labeling and/or documentation, insufficient sample volume, improper packaging, incorrect specimen type
PCR Results Include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "POSITIVE for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex DNA" • "NEGATIVE for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex DNA" • "INDETERMINATE for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex DNA" (Mtb DNA detected beyond verified limit of detection of assay) • "INCONCLUSIVE for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex DNA" (human encoded internal control DNA not detected) • "Culture Report to Follow" will be included on all PCR reports.
Reporting:	All results will be reported only to submitter as stated on requisition via fax and/or mail.
Laboratory Testing Fee:	No charge - fee waived
Applicable CPT Codes:	N/A - fee waived
<i>For Epidemiological Investigations:</i>	Contact HETL for outbreak kits at 287-1716
Additional Information:	For TB complex specific questions contact Maine HETL Mycobacteriology Section at 207-287-1706