



Department of
Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
221 State Street
12 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0012
Tel: (207) 287-2727; Fax: (207) 287-6832
TTY: 1-800-606-0215

Detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*/*Mycobacterium avium* by Preliminary and Standard RT-PCR *Laboratory Submission Information Sheet*

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection 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">• Yes: Specimens that are AFB positive or specimens from suspect <i>M. tuberculosis</i> cases must be submitted.
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: Patient name, date of birth, date of collection, specimen source, submitter name and contact information.• Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preliminary RT-PCR: Respiratory specimens including expectorated and induced sputum, bronchial and tracheal aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) and bronchial washings.• Standard RT-PCR: Pure AFB culture grown in liquid (MGIT) or on solid media (Lowenstein-Jensen).
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect in a sterile, leak proof container (i.e. 50 mL conical Falcon tube). Specimens should be refrigerated upon collection.• For Preliminary RT-PCR: Samples should arrive at the laboratory within 3 days of collection.• For Standard RT-PCR: Samples should arrive at the laboratory after AFB is detected in/on media.
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results should be expected within 1-3 business days of specimen receipt.
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specimens received unlabeled, specimens not refrigerated or frozen, incorrect specimen type.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive for <i>M. avium</i> complex: MAC• Positive for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex: MTBC• Positive for <i>M. avium</i> complex and <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex: MAC + MTBC• NEGATIVE
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fee waived if testing/identification is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC/TB Control• MTBC/MAC RT-PCR: \$110 to the submitter listed on the requisition
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 87556
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact Mycobacteriology and Rabies Department at 207-287-1706• Contact TB Control/Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821