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Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory  
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## Detection of Mycobacterium species (TB) by Culture

### Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes: <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex 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.)</li></ul>
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes: Specimens that are AFB positive or specimens from suspect <i>M. tuberculosis</i> cases must be submitted.</li></ul>
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information on requisition must include: patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information.</li><li>• <b>Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.</b></li></ul>
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respiratory specimens including expectorated and induced sputum, bronchial and tracheal aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL), bronchial washing, fine needle biopsy, lung biopsies, urine, gastric lavage, tissue and lymph nodes, bone, blood, bone marrow, CSF, pleural fluid, synovial fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, ascites, and stool.</li></ul>
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collect 2-10 ml in a sterile and leak proof container (i.e. 50mL conical Falcon tube). Specimens should be refrigerated upon collection..</li><li>• Samples should arrive at the laboratory within three days.</li></ul>
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AFB smear results should be expected within 1-3 business days of specimen receipt.</li><li>• AFB culture results may take up to 6 weeks for a report of no growth.</li></ul>
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specimens received unlabeled and without a form or with insufficient material to analyze.</li></ul>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Smear: No AFB Found, Rare AFB (3-9/smear), Few AFB (&gt;10/smear), Many AFB (&gt;1/oil immersion field) with culture pending.</li><li>• Culture: No growth at 6 weeks or Mycobacterium species identified.</li><li>• All results will be reported only to submitter as stated on requisition via mail or fax.</li></ul>
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fee waived if testing/identification is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC</li><li>• AFB smear -\$20 AFB Culture - \$35</li><li>• <i>M. avium</i> complex identification RT PCR -\$110</li><li>• Mycobacterial identification by 16S sequence - \$163</li></ul>
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AFB smear 87206</li><li>• AFB culture 87116</li><li>• Identification of <i>M.avium</i> complex by RT PCR 87150</li><li>• Mycobacterial ID by 16S Sequence 87153</li></ul>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mycobacteriology and Rabies at 207-287-1706</li></ul>