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