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## Neisseria meningitidis – Culture and Isolates

### Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes: Meningitis due to <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> 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: Isolates must be submitted to HETL for confirmation and serotyping</li></ul>
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information on requisition must include: suspected organism, 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>• Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF): Submit a minimum of 0.5 ml (1.0 ml preferred) in a leak-proof container.</li><li>• Blood, synovial fluid: Collect body fluid in a leak-proof .</li><li>• Isolates should be sent in appropriate biological growth media, preferably slant.</li></ul>
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If they are expected to arrive within 48 hours CSF should be stored and shipped cold (2 - 8°C) .</li><li>• Collect specimens soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment.</li><li>• Avoid contamination of CSF specimen with blood.</li></ul>
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results should be expected within 24-48hrs from business days of specimen receipt</li></ul>
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specimens received without a form and clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze.</li><li>• Specimens in poorly labeled or leaking containers will not be tested.</li></ul>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>, group “...” isolated</li><li>• No <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> found</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>• \$50.00 Culture</li><li>• (Fee waived if testing/identification is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC)</li></ul>
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 87077, 87081 (culture of clinical specimens only )</li></ul>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bacteriology at 207-287-1704, Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, and Serology at 207-287-1722</li><li>• Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769</li><li>• Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706</li><li>• CT/GC at 207-287-6244</li></ul>