



MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE DETECTION BY PCR

February 15, 2015

CLINICAL USE

Used for the diagnosis of infections due to Mycoplasma pneumonia.

CLINICAL BACKGROUND

Mycoplasma pneumonia is small bacterium that can cause upper respiratory infection, pharyngitis, and tracheobronchitis, particularly in children. Approximately 20% of cases of community-acquired pneumonia have been associated with M. pneumoniae. The disease is usually self-limited although severe complications such as central nervous system and cardiac manifestations have been reported in immunocompromised patients.

Identification of Mycoplasma pneumonia by culture is both time consuming and difficult on routine media. Real-time PCR offers a rapid and sensitive option for the detection of M. pneumonia from clinical specimens.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

Specimen: 3 mL Nasopharyngeal or throat swabs in M4 or VCM Transport Medium.
1 mL Bronchial washings in a sterile plastic, leak-proof container.
Stability: Room temperature: 48 hours; Refrigerated: 7 days; Frozen: 30 days

CAUSE FOR REJECTION

Improper transport media or container leakage.

METHOD

Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)

REFERENCE RANGE

Negative

TURNAROUND TIME

Testing is batched on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

CPT CODE*

87581

*CPT codes provided are for informational purposes only. Questions regarding coding should be directed to the payer.