

Pneumocystis Jirovecii (Carinii) Detection

Synonyms

Clinical Indication

Pneumocystis pneumonia also occurs in immunocompromised adults and children. It presents sub-acutely with cough, fever and hypoxia. Please give detailed clinical information, including date of onset/contact with the suspected infection, and any current, or intended, antibiotic therapy.

Part of Profile / See Also

Detection of Pneumocystis jirovecii (carinii) by PCR. May also be performed as part of Referred Respiratory Virus detection.

[See also; Respiratory Virus PCR \(Swab\), Respiratory Virus Detection \(Sputum and BAL\).](#)

Request Form

[ICE order comms form \(Handwritten request – only if order comms not available\).](#)

Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Referred test: Analysed at PHE East, Cambridge (Addenbrookes).

On request during normal working hours. Samples are sent by overnight courier for processing the following day.

Turnaround Time

10 days

Patient Preparation

Sample Requirements

Specimen Type

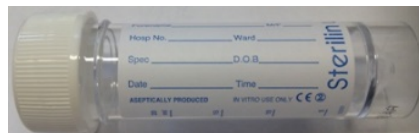
Broncho-alveolar lavage/washings ONLY.

Volume

Sputum is NOT an acceptable sample

Container

Minimum 5 ml



Plain (white top) universal container

Samples should be transported to laboratory immediately.

Reference Range & Units

'Not Detected' indicates a negative result

'Detected' indicates a positive result

Interferences

Interpretation & Clinical

Decision Value (if applicable)

Detection of PCP DNA may reflect colonisation only and a false negative may occur in the presence of PCP infection. All results must be interpreted in the light of the clinical presentation. The reference laboratory provide interpretive comments which will be included in the final report.

References

Test code

RVP (includes other respiratory viruses)

RPCP (PCP detection only)

Lab Handling

Store at 4°C. Sent to the reference laboratory as soon as possible.