




# Cryptococcus Antigen

<b>Synonyms</b>	CRAG
<b>Clinical Indication</b>	Suspected Cryptococcus meningitis, cryptococcal infection in immunosuppressed patients.
<b>Part of Profile / See Also</b>	Detection of antigen of Cryptococcus neoformans in CSF/serum
<b>Request Form</b>	Order comms request i.e., ICE or Medway or clearly handwritten Microbiology form where order comms not available
<b>Availability / Frequency of Analysis</b>	On request Samples will be sent to a Reference Laboratory for analysis. Samples are referred to the Royal London Hospital. The service is 7 days a week.
<b>Turnaround Time</b>	3 working days
<b>Patient Preparation</b>	
<b>Sample Requirements</b>	
<b>Specimen Type</b>	CSF or Serum
<b>Volume</b>	1ml CSF
<b>Container</b>	 <p>CSF in White Top Universal CE marked</p>  <p>Blood in Gold top (SST) tube</p>  <p>Paediatric Blood Yellow</p> <p>OR</p>  <p>Red Top (serum) tube</p>  <p>Paediatric Red Top (plain) tube</p>
<b>Reference Range &amp; Units</b>	
<b>Interferences</b>	



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ISO 15189:2022

**Interpretation & Clinical**

**Decision Value (if applicable)**

Reported as positive or Negative. A negative result does not exclude infection.

**References**

**Test code**

RCRA

**Lab Handling**

Part of CSF investigation – by specific request only