

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

IMPLEMENTATION OF MULTI-TARGET PCR ASSAY

Meningitis Encephalitis Panel

Order: Meningitis/Encephalitis panel, infectious agents, CSF, with culture

Results: About 2 hours

TARGETS:

Bacteria:

Escherichia coli K1
Haemophilus influenzae
Listeria monocytogenes
Neisseria meningitidis
Streptococcus agalactiae (grp B strep)
Streptococcus pneumoniae

Viruses:

Cytomegalovirus (CMV)
Enterovirus
Herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1)
HSV-2
Human herpes virus 6 (HHV6)
Human parechovirus
Varicella zoster virus (VZV)

Yeast

Cryptococcus neoformans/gattii

	Sensitivity	Specificity
Bacteria	100%	99.8%
Viruses	97.3%	99.8%
Yeast	100%	99.7%

Important notes:

1. Order called, "Meningitis/encephalitis panel, infectious agents, CSF, with culture"
2. Specimen is CSF, not VP shunt fluid
3. Specimen will first be gram stained and **cultured** to detect bacterial/fungal agents not on panel and for susceptibility testing
4. "Culture only" order available
5. Separate PCR tests available for order of HHV-6, CMV, HSV 1-2, Enterovirus, VZV, and parechovirus
6. Always consider result in context of other clinical and laboratory information

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