
Lab Dept: Urine/Stool

Test Name: HISTOPLASMA AND BLASTOMYCES ANTIGEN, EIA, URINE

General Information

Lab Order Codes: UHBAG

Synonyms: *Histoplasma capsulatum* or *Blastomyces dermatitidis* Ag, Urine

CPT Codes: 87449 - Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique, (eg, enzyme immunoassay [EIA], enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay [ELISA], immunochemiluminometric assay [IMCA]), qualitative or semiquantitative; multiple-step method, not otherwise specified, each organism

Test Includes: Histoplasma/Blastomyces antigen result reported in ng/mL.

Logistics

Test Indications: Diagnosing *Histoplasma capsulatum* or *Blastomyces dermatitidis* infection without differentiation between the organisms

Monitor antigen levels following initiation of antifungal treatment.

This test aids in the diagnosis of histoplasmosis or blastomycosis alongside other routine methods, including culture, molecular testing, and serology.

Lab Testing Sections: Urine/Stool - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Clinic Laboratories (Test code: UHBAG)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1-3 days, test set up daily

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type: Urine, random

Container:	Urine Cup or other leak-proof container
Draw Volume:	Submit entire random urine specimen
Processed Volume:	3 mL (Minimum: 2.5 mL) urine from a random urine collection (no preservative)
Collection:	Random or catheterized urine collection
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Do NOT centrifuge. Aliquot urine specimen to plastic aliquot vial. Store and send refrigerated. Forward promptly. Do not use preservatives for collection. Specimen stable refrigerated (preferred) for 14 days, frozen for 28 days, ambient for 7 days.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Specimens other than urine; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; gross hemolysis or turbidity

Interpretive

Reference Range:

Histoplasma/Blastomyces Antigen Result:
Not Detected

Histoplasma/Blastomyces Antigen Value:
Not Detected: 0.0 ng/mL
Detected: <1.3 ng/mL
Detected: 1.3-20.0 ng/mL
Detected: >20.0 ng/mL

Reference values apply to all ages.

See reference lab's test catalog for further interpretation.

Critical Values:

Detected

Limitations:

Due to significant cross-reactivity between galactomannan antigens from *Blastomyces* and *Histoplasma*, this assay does not differentiate between these two dimorphic fungal agents. To differentiate, consider fungal culture, molecular testing, or serology testing.

Positive results should be correlated with other clinical and laboratory findings (e.g., culture, serology).

Low-level positive antigen levels may persist following resolution of infection and completion of appropriate treatment regimen.

Sensitivity of this assay to detect antigen from species other than *Blastomyces dermatitidis* or *Histoplasma capsulatum* is unknown.

False-positive results may occur less frequently with other dimorphic agents (e.g., *Coccidioides*).

Methodology:

Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA)

References:

[Mayo Clinic Laboratories](#) July 2024

Updates:

7/16/2024: Initial entry. Replaces and combines obsolete UHIST and BAG.