

ACANTHAMOEBA CULTURE - DISCONTINUED

Effective Date: October 2, 2018

Acanthamoeba culture will be replaced by *Acanthamoeba* by PCR from Mayo Medical Laboratories. This new test will detect agents of granulomatous amoebic encephalitis and conjunctivitis as well as primary amoebic meningoencephalitis and includes *Acanthamoeba*, *Naegleria*, and *Balamuthia* species.

Advantages of the new test include:

- Superior test sensitivity
- Improved time to results
- Ability to test a variety of specimen types including corneal scrapings and cerebrospinal fluid
- Contact lenses and contact lens solutions
- Contact lens cases

Specimen Collection:

NOTE: the preferred specimen for *Acanthamoeba* by PCR is a corneal scraping or biopsy
Aseptically collect one of the following

- Corneal scrapings in a sterile collection container with 1 mL of sterile saline or viral transport media, 1 mL (min. 0.5 mL)
- Ocular biopsy in a sterile collection container with 1 mL of sterile saline or viral transport media, 1 mL (min. 0.5 mL)
- Contact lenses in a sterile collection container with 1 mL of sterile saline or viral transport media
- Contact lens solution in a sterile collection container, minimum 1 mL
- Lens case: Either 1 mL of solution or the entire case

Transport specimens to the Laboratory immediately after collection.

New Test Order	Discontinued Test Order
<i>Acanthamoeba</i> PCR (CPT Code: 87998) Order codes: Epic: Lab 7149, Soft: XACAP	Culture, <i>Acanthamoeba</i> Order Codes: EPIC: LAB 5474 ; SOFT: CXACA

If you have questions, please contact Client Services (1-800-551-0488, option 5).
Laboratory Test Directory: <http://beaumontlaboratory.com/test-lab-directory>.

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Customer Service
1-800-551-0488