

Cerebral Spinal Fluid Cytology Ordering and Collection v1.1

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Approval and Periodic Review Signatures

Type	Description	Date	Version	Performed By	Notes
Approval	Lab Director	4/6/2022	1.1	Simha Sastry MD Clinical Laboratory Director (M06625)	
Approval	Lab Director	4/6/2022	1.1	Ghazala Nathu MD Clinical Laboratory Director (S00134)	
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Approval	Lab Director	4/1/2022	1.1	Valerie Bush PhD Clinical Laboratory Director (M05512)	
Approval	Lab Director	3/31/2022	1.1	Timothy Chapman MD Clinical Laboratory Director (M11669)	

Version History

Version	Status	Type	Date Added	Date Effective	Date Retired
1.1	Approved and Current	Initial version	3/16/2022	4/14/2022	Indefinite

CEREBRAL SPINAL FLUID CYTOLOGY: ORDERING, COLLECTION AND LABELING

I. Principle:

For processing cerebral spinal fluids submitted for cytological evaluation to determine the presence or absence of malignant tumor cells or infectious processes.

II. Ordering and Labeling:

- Follow the EPIC workflow to order a lab test – choose LAB13 for Non-Gyn cytology.
- Enter the Specimen Source.
- Enter the source description in the box on the same line at the far right of the screen.
- When the Specimen Source is entered, another box opens below it for an additional specimen.
- Fill in for as many specimens as needed.
- Answer the mandatory and specific questions.
- Sign the order.
- Go to the Collection activity.
- Choose which specimens to collect. Verify/update sources and comments.
- Select Print Label.
- Label the CSF tube using the EPIC generated label.
- Scan the Label to document the electronic collection.
- Select Finish or Accept

Proper patient history is essential to the successful interpretation of a cytological specimen and is required by regulations. Any evaluation and report is, at best, incomplete without correlating the cytological studies with a complete patient history.

Improper labeling may cause the specimen to be returned for proper labeling, a delay while waiting for proper labeling or the specimen to be rejected and discarded.

III. Collection:

1. Use standard spinal tap procedures.
2. A minimum of 0.5 mls. is desired for optimum cytological evaluation. If other tests are requested in addition to cytology withdraw a portion of the specimen and submit it to the appropriate laboratory following their guidelines.
3. Do not add fixative to the specimen. Refrigeration is recommended if a delay in transporting the specimen is expected.