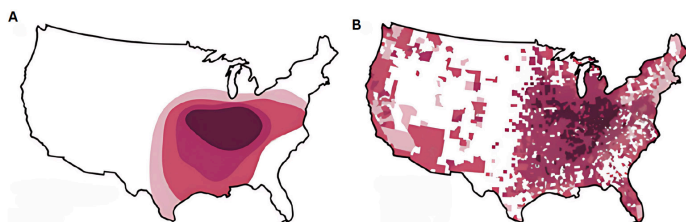




CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS

Diagnosing Histoplasmosis in Changing Endemic Environments

The geographic distribution of diagnosed cases of *histoplasma* is challenging our long held understanding of the traditionally endemic region. Travel and population shifts from Central and Midwest regions of the US have resulted in histoplasmosis being identified in most areas of the country.



This, along with the indeterminate and sometimes vague symptoms, can result in delayed diagnosis especially in acute pulmonary cases. Early testing by front line clinicians is needed to aid in an accurate diagnosis.

Regardless of the clinical manifestation, antigen detection in both serum and urine remains among the most sensitive methods for diagnosis especially in disseminated disease.

Clinical Considerations

1. Consult with an infectious disease physician experienced in diagnosis and treatment of histoplasmosis.
2. Test both urine and serum for antigen initially.
3. Test serum antibody levels.
4. If histoplasmosis is diagnosed, and the serum antigen is positive, test serum at 3- or 4-month intervals during 12 months of treatment.
5. Once the serum antigen is negative, resume testing the urinary antigen until it is negative.
6. Treat for at least 12 months [11].
7. Continue testing for antigen at 2- or 3-month intervals for 6 months after treatment is stopped and if relapse is suspected.

Common symptoms of histoplasmosis often mistaken for community acquired pneumonia:
Fever, headache, dry cough, chills, chest pain, malaise, myalgias and arthritis

SENSITIVITY OF DIAGNOSTICS METHODS FOR HISTOPLASMOSIS

Assay	Acute Pulmonary	Subacute Pulmonary	Chronic Pulmonary	Meningeal	Disseminated	References
Microscopy		42%	75%	38% ^{\$}	57-76%	1, 8
Culture	0-75%	54%	58-67%	25-38% ^{\$}	48-88%	1, 4, 5, 6, 8
Antibody Detection [@]	64-88%	95%	83%	66-78% (CSF)	58-75%	1, 3, 6, 9, 10
Antigen Detection [%]	43-83%	31%	20-100%	59-88% (CSF)	84-100%	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Antibody and Antigen Detection	93-100%*	100%*	100%*	100%*	90-100%*	9, 10

[^], Includes proven and probable cases; [@], includes immunodiffusion, complement fixation, and ELISA; ^{\$}, 1 study included data for combined microscopy and culture; [%], Includes urine, serum or BALf; *Unpublished data

HEADQUARTERS

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CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS

MVista® *Histoplasma* Antigen EIA

TEST CODE: 310

CPT CODE: 87385

Minimum Specimen Requirements

Serum/Plasma: 1.2mL

CSF: 0.8mL

Urine/BAL/Other Body Fluid: 0.5mL

Specimen Stability

Room Temperature: 14 days

Refrigerated: 14 days

Frozen: Indefinitely

Turnaround Time

Urine/BAL: Same Day

Serum/Plasma/BAL: Next Day

*New positives may require confirmation

Interpretive Information

Positive: 0.2-20.0ng/mL

Positive Above the Limit of Quantification:

Results are greater than 20.0ng/mL fall outside the linear range of the assay. These results are positive, but not accurately quantifiable.

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MVista® *Histoplasma* Antibody IgG IgM EIA

TEST CODE: 326

CPT CODE: 86698 x2

Minimum Specimen Requirements

Serum: 0.5mL

CSF: 0.15mL

Plasma: 0.15mL

*CSF/Plasma will be reported with a rare specimen comment

Specimen Stability

Room Temperature: 28 days

Refrigerated: 6 months

Frozen: Indefinitely

Turnaround Time

Next Day

Interpretive Information

Negative: <8.0 EU

Intermediate: 8.0 EU - 9.9 EU

Positive: 10.0 EU - 80.0 EU

Positive Above the Limit of Quantification: >80.0 EU

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