

Mycoplasma

General:

Mycoplasma are bacteria-similar gramnegative, coccoid, cell wall located microorganisms. Mycoplasma do not have their own cell wall. Therefore, microscopic detection or staining is impossible.

Mycoplasma hominis: present worldwide, can be part of the physiological flora of the urogenital tract and is infectious under certain conditions. It is transferred sexually. In particular, younger women are affected. A non-specific pyelitis, urethritis, prostatitis, inflammation of the oviduct, amnionitis, bartholinitis as well as abortion or puerperal fever are empirically associated with mycoplasma/ureaplasma infections. In the newborn, postnatal pneumonia, meningitis and abscesses can be symptomatic. In rare cases wound infections, brain abscesses and bone infections are described. (see also **Ureaplasma urealyticum**). The antigen detection is possible in a bacteriological smear test (see below).

Mycoplasma pneumoniae: The transmission occurs through droplet infection. In children under three years it causes primary infections of the upper respiratory tract. In adolescents, also bronchitis and interstitial pneumonia. Symptoms: slow progress, fever, headaches, cough, in 5-10 % of the cases tracheobronchitis or pneumonia. The microorganism also causes the so-called Johnson syndrome of the skin particularly in younger patients; in addition, it can provoke arrhythmias, heart insufficiency, meningitis, meningoencephalitis, GBS, peripheral neuropathy as well as polyarthralgia.

The following tests are available:

- **Mycoplasma hominis, cultural detection and susceptibility on request[^]**

Material: genital swab, seminal fluid, first morning urine

TAT: 2 days, FML

Method: biochemical identification in liquid medium and resistance testing

Ref.- range: negative

- **Mycoplasma pneumoniae DNA detection**

Indication: atypical pneumonia

Material: sputum, smear, tracheal secretion, bronchial lavage, swab

TAT: 7-10 days*

Method: PCR

Ref.- range: negative

- **Mycoplasma pneumoniae IgM antibodies**

Indication: suspicion of acute atypical pneumonia

Material: 1 ml serum

Stability: 14 days at 2 to 8°C

TAT: 3 days, FML

Method: EIA

Unit: Index

Ref.- range: see report

- **Mycoplasma pneumoniae IgA antibodies**

Indication: suspicion of acute atypical pneumonia

Material: 1 ml serum

Stability: 14 days at 2 to 8°C

TAT: 3 days, FML

Method: EIA

Unit: Index

Ref.- range: see report

- **Mycoplasma pneumoniae IgG antibodies**

Indication: clarification atypical pneumonia

Material: 1 ml serum

Stability: 14 days at 2 to 8°C

TAT: 3 days, FML

Method: EIA

Unit: Index

Ref.- range: see report

- **Mycoplasma hominis DNA (PCR)**

Material: swab

TAT: 7-10 days*

Method: PCR

For complete list of laboratory test offered at Freiburg Medical Laboratory, please visit
<http://www.fml-dubai.com/parameter-listings/>