



# Bacteria, Virus, Fungus, and Parasite Metagenomic Sequencing, Spinal Fluid

**Test ID:** MSCSF

**Useful for:**

Detecting and identifying pathogenic organisms, including bacteria, fungi, DNA or RNA viruses, or parasites in cerebrospinal fluid in suspected central nervous system infection. A suggested diagnostic algorithm is available.

**Reflex Test(s):**

Test ID	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
SPID2	Specimen Identification by PCR	No (Bill Only)	No

**Method:**

Metagenomic Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS)

**Reference Values:**

Negative.

No pathogenic DNA virus detected.

No pathogenic RNA virus detected.

No pathogenic parasite detected.

No pathogenic bacterium detected.

No pathogenic fungus detected.

**Specimen Requirements:**

**Container/Tube:** Sterile vial

**Specimen Volume:** 2 mL

- Collection Instructions:**
1. Masks should be worn by those collecting and processing specimens for this assay.
  2. Handle all vials under sterile technique when open to the air.
  3. Send specimen from collection vial 2.
  4. Do not centrifuge or heat inactivate.

**Minimum Volume:** 0.5 mL

## Specimen Stability Information:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
CSF	Frozen (preferred)	21 days
	Refrigerated	7 days

## Cautions:

This test does not detect prions. False-positive results are possible if specimens are contaminated with microbial nucleic acids from environmental contamination, patient microbiota (eg, from the skin) or microbiota of those collecting or processing the specimen.

High levels of human nucleic acids in specimens can decrease test sensitivity for microorganism detection and result in sequencing competition interpreted as inhibition.

Not all infecting central nervous system pathogens are detectable in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) by this test.

Results are intended to be used in conjunction with clinical findings. This test is only validated for CSF collected via lumbar puncture.

## NY State Information

NY State Available: No (pending review)

## CPT Code:

87801

87798 - Specimen Identification by PCR (if appropriate)

**Day(s) Performed:** Monday through Friday

**Report Available:** 7 to 14 days

## Note:

The following referral test code(s) will become obsolete.

Test Name	Test ID	Referral Lab Code	Referral Lab
Pathogen Detection, mNGS (metagenomic Next-Generation Sequencing)	ZW308	P710	UCSF Clinical Labs

## Questions

Contact James Conn, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.