

Tickborne Bacterial, PCR and Sequencing, Blood

Test ID: BRBST

Note:

This testing is currently available only to clients who have received prior authorization. For more information, contact Customer Service at 800-533-1710.

Useful for:

Detecting and identifying pathogenic tickborne bacteria infecting normally sterile whole blood. It may also detect bacteria that cause similar illnesses to tickborne infections.

This test should only be used when routine testing is negative. It should not be a front-line test.

This test is *not* recommended as a test of cure because nucleic acids may persist for long periods of time after successful treatment.

Reflex Tests:

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

Methods:

16S Ribosomal RNA Gene Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) followed by Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)

Reference Values:

No tickborne bacterial DNA detected

Specimen Requirements:

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Lavender top (EDTA)

Acceptable: Royal blue top (EDTA), pink top (EDTA), or sterile vial containing EDTA-derived aliquot

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Collection Instructions: If not submitting in original vial, mix well before transferring to a sterile vial.

Minimum Volume: 0.5 mL

Specimen Stability Information:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Whole Blood EDTA	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days
	Frozen	14 days

Cautions:

This test does not detect nonbacterial organisms (eg, viruses, fungi, helminths, protozoa).

False-positive results are theoretically possible if patient specimens are contaminated with bacterial nucleic acids from the environment or patient microbiota (eg, skin microbiota contamination).

CPT Code:

87801-Broad Range Bacterial PCR and Sequencing

87798-Specimen Identification by PCR (if appropriate)

Day(s) Performed: Monday through Friday

Report Available: 14 to 28 days

Questions

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